# MOMENTUM FOR GROWTH

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
ANNUAL REPORT
2024

# VISION

The University of Hong Kong, Asia's Global University, delivers impact through internationalisation, innovation and interdisciplinarity. It attracts and nurtures global scholars through excellence in research, teaching and learning, and knowledge exchange. It makes a positive social contribution through global presence, regional significance and engagement with the rest of China.

# MISSION

The University of Hong Kong will endeavour:

- To advance constantly the bounds of scholarship, building upon its proud traditions and strengths
- To provide a comprehensive education, benchmarked against the highest international standards, designed to develop fully the intellectual and personal strengths of its students, while extending lifelong learning opportunities for the community
- To produce graduates of distinction committed to academic / professional excellence, critical intellectual inquiry and lifelong learning, who are communicative and innovative, ethically and culturally aware, and capable of tackling the unfamiliar with confidence
- To develop a collegial, flexible, pluralistic and supportive intellectual environment that inspires and attracts, retains and nurtures scholars, students and staff of the highest calibre in a culture that fosters creativity, learning and freedom of thought, enquiry and expression
- To provide a safe, healthy and sustainable workplace to support and advance teaching, learning and research at the University
- To engage in innovative, high-impact and leading-edge research within and across disciplines
- To be fully accountable for the effective management of public and private resources bestowed upon the institution and act in partnership with the community over the generation, dissemination and application of knowledge
- To serve as a focal point of intellectual and academic endeavour in Hong Kong, China and Asia and act as a gateway and forum for scholarship with the rest of the world

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

# AHEAD OF THE CURVE

The French scientist Louis Pasteur famously advised that "chance favours the prepared mind". Since I arrived in 2018, my goal has been to prepare HKU for world-class excellence by recruiting the best scholars and elevating our facilities and programmes accordingly. As evidence of our progress, HKU had a record 53 researchers named in Clarivate's prestigious 2024 Highly Cited Researchers list, our highest number ever, accounting for 40% of the total number of Highly Cited Researchers in Hong Kong and helping Hong Kong maintain its position among the top 10 regions and countries globally for the total number of Highly Cited Researchers. Our strength of talent has undoubtedly also contributed to HKU's rise in global rankings of institutions and our ability to attract top students, which we have enhanced with robust value-added support across teaching, research and innovation.

All of this excellence has placed the University in a fantastic position to grasp the opportunities arising across society as technology shifts economic and future workforce needs, geopolitical developments create both uncertainties and openings, and the government prioritises investment in research and education to strengthen Hong Kong's future prospects. HKU is now well-placed to contribute innovative solutions and discoveries that will advance Hong Kong and the nation.

These opportunities are not without challenges, of course. The advent of artificial intelligence (AI) has been highly disruptive across society and education is an area where the upheaval may turn out to be enormous. But here, too, the University has focussed on preparing for a future that is uncertain but full of promise.

A major focus of that preparation is our students. We are committed to ensuring all students are AI-ready and future-ready. Over the past couple of years, our teachers have worked very hard to create programmes that will equip all students, whatever their disciplines, with comprehensive AI knowledge and skills.

Starting from September 2025, a compulsory basic AI skills course will be introduced for all incoming undergraduate students. They will also be required to take at least one course under the Common Core that considers the implications of AI. Programmes focussed on data science and innovation are also being rolled out through two new interdisciplinary schools: the School of Computing and Data Science, which will offer new market-driven programmes in fields such as AI, statistics and data science, and the School of Innovation, or I-School, which will offer a new project-based Bachelor of Science in Innovation and Technology programme. Moreover, the Faculties of Arts and Engineering have unveiled eight new programmes for 2025 that prominently feature AI and data science.

Having said that, we also recognise that students need more than technology-focussed content to thrive in future. Our teachers have been innovating learning experiences to challenge and inspire students' personal and intellectual development. Their efforts received external honours in 2023–24 in the international QS Reimagine Education Awards and the University Grants Committee's Teaching Award. We also continue to enhance the campus experience for students by building more hostels to ensure both local and non-local students have at least one year of enriching hall experience.

HKU's commitment to vibrant and dynamic learning experiences attracts outstanding performers. In 2024, our new intake had the highest average score in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination among all universities in Hong Kong. We also admitted more non-local students than ever – nearly 1,300 students from more than 60 countries and regions – after the government doubled the quota from 20% to 40% of undergraduate enrolment. This is a welcome measure to counter the trend of deglobalisation, and it is complemented by the government's new 'Study in Hong Kong' brand, announced in the Chief Executive's 2024 Policy Address. We are very keen to contribute to the development of this brand. HKU has strong global recognition and is ready and able to support non-local students and scholars. Most importantly, we offer an exceptional education and the prospect of working with some of the best researchers in the world.

> THE UNIVERSITY HAS FOCUSSED ON PREPARING FOR A FUTURE THAT IS UNCERTAIN BUT FULL OF PROMISE.

In addition to Clarivate's Highly Cited Researchers list, 12 of our distinguished scholars were named among the top 100 best scholars globally in their respective disciplines by Research.com in 2024, and five ranked first in Asia in their fields. These scholars are all at the pinnacle of their powers, and they are opening doors and inspiring other academic staff and students to reach new heights. And there is more to come as our recruitment campaign continues to bring in new talent. This year alone, up to November 1, we recruited 124 academics at the cutting edge of their fields. The high-quality productivity of all of our scholars has undoubtedly contributed to our strong standing on the international stage.

Let me showcase the highlights of that recognition. The 2025 QS World University Rankings named HKU the 17th best university in the world – our highest ranking ever. HKU ranked second in the QS Asia University Rankings for the second year in a row. The new Times Higher Education's Interdisciplinary Science Rankings ranked us 13th best in the world. And the Shanghai Institute for Science of Science (SISS)'s new index of disruptive research named us first in China and sixth best in the world. In addition, we continue to receive the lion's share of public research funding in Hong Kong, we are earning more funding support from national agencies, and we are leading major, impactful projects.

Having the right talent is a key ingredient in a success, but we are amplifying it by providing new facilities and state-of-the-art equipment that create a rich and conducive environment for research and discovery. The first phase of the Tech Landmark is nearly completed and is specifically designed to promote interdisciplinary research. Once all phases are completed, it will host 10 cross-faculty institutes. The medical campus is also continuing to implement its expansion plans along Sassoon Road. HKU has also proposed a groundbreaking initiative, the Global Innovation Centre, to accommodate upstream interdisciplinary research focussed on tackling global challenges and igniting transformative discoveries.

The University has also prioritised collaboration, which underpins some of the most successful research today. The headline event was the selection of HKUMed to be the operator of the new Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trial Institute, a one-stop platform for clinical trials that officially opened in November in the Hong Kong Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone. This is of importance not only for medical and health development, but also the National 14th Five-Year Plan's aim to develop Hong Kong into an international innovation and technology hub. My hope is that this will be a harbinger of great things to come as HKU seeks to make meaningful contributions to the development of Hong Kong and the region. Another wonderful milestone in that regard was the opening in 2024 of the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy in Qianhai, Shenzhen to promote regional innovation and technological advancement by providing training, facilities and access to new funding.

The achievements of the past year are particularly encouraging for the University because they demonstrate that despite challenges of all sorts, we do not lose sight of our purpose and aims. We continue to pursue excellence and anticipate and prepare for new challenges. I would like to thank all HKU colleagues, students, alumni and stakeholders for their care and support over the past year. The Senior Management Team and I look forward to listening to your views and taking our reforms forward to the highest planes, so that HKU can play a key role in helping Hong Kong realise its vision of becoming a global innovation, technology and talent hub.

Professor Xiang Zhang
President and Vice-Chancellor
December 2024





# OUR LEADERSHIP

PROFESSOR
XIANG ZHANG
President and Vice-Chancellor

PROFESSOR
RICHARD WONG YUE CHIM
Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor

PROFESSOR
NORMAN TIEN CHIHNAN
Executive Vice-President
(Administration and Finance)

PROFESSOR
GONG PENG
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Academic Development)

PROFESSOR
IAN MICHAEL HOLLIDAY
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Teaching and Learning)

PROFESSOR
WALLACE LAU CHAK SING
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health)

PROFESSOR
ALFONSO NGAN HING WAN
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global)

PROFESSOR
MAX SHEN ZUOJUN
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

PROFESSOR
VIVIAN YAM WING WAH
Vice-President and
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Global Innovation Centre)

MS ISABELLA WONG YEE SIN
Chief of Staff

TEACHING AND LEARNING

# TALENT DEVELOPMENT

The University has initiated programmes to prepare students for the changes being brought by artificial intelligence, and to help them engage more deeply with the wider world.

OVER
# 4,200
TOP-TIER STUDENTS
from over
60
countries and regions
admitted in the 2024 intake

# 104
TOP SCORERS
admitted with IB, GCE A-levels, Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) and Gaokao qualifications

# 8
EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES
admitted via the Top Athletes Direct Admission Scheme

# 14
OUTSTANDING ATHLETES
admitted via the Sports Scholarship Scheme

# 116
ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING AND MULTI-TALENTED STUDENTS
admitted via the School Nominations Direct Admission Scheme

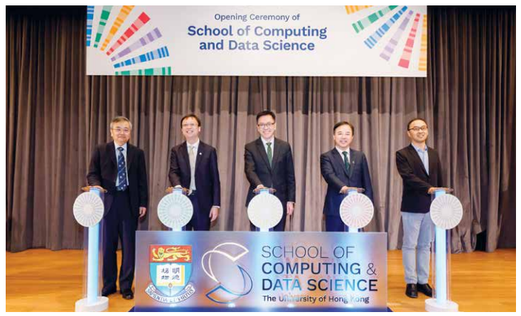


HKU is committed to preparing our students to meet society's future needs and challenges. Technological changes, in particular, loom large and we are responding by taking the lead. Over the past year, important initiatives were developed to bring artificial intelligence into the curriculum for all students. We also prepared to welcome increased numbers of non-local students with programmes to accommodate them and integrate them more closely with local students, providing cross-cultural enrichment for everyone.

Starting from September 2025, all undergraduate students will have to complete two micro-credential courses that improve their AI literacy and skills (similar to our English-language requirement), both generally and in their chosen disciplines. At the same time, AI will also become an Area of Inquiry under the Common Core, meaning all incoming undergraduate students will need to take at least one course about the implications and ethics of AI.

New AI-influenced programmes are also being prepared for offer in 2025 to give our students the edge. The new interdisciplinary School of Computing and Data Science, which is administering the micro-credential courses, will offer two new programmes related to AI and data science, while the Faculties of Arts and Engineering are preparing eight new programmes to cultivate leadership in new technology. In addition, the new School of Innovation is drawing up plans to offer a new Bachelor of Science in Innovation and Technology programme that teaches science and technology through project-based learning.

The new interdisciplinary School of Computing and Data Science strives to advance data-driven education and innovation and nurture talent in critical areas such as computer science, data science, artificial intelligence, FinTech, and actuarial science.






Professor Xiang Zhang (first from left), President and Vice-Chancellor of HKU, was joined by around 100 local and non-local HKU students for a ferry ride around the Victoria Harbour.

AI has also figured in the work of the Centre of Development and Resources for Students, which in 2023–24 helped students prepare for the future workplace with an AI-focussed careers day, Hong Kong's first student internships in AI and an industry report highlighting the importance of AI skills to employers.

Apart from these provisions, our teachers continued to innovate the teaching and learning experience, earning recognition in the University Grants Committee (UGC)'s Teaching Award and the international QS Reimagine Education Awards (see page 14). Their forward-thinking commitment, plus the high quality of education at HKU, help us attract top students. In 2024, our new intake had the highest average score in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination among all universities in Hong Kong. We also welcomed nearly 1,300 high-performing non-local students from more than 60 countries and regions, after the government doubled the quota of non-local students from 20% to 40% of undergraduate enrolment – a move HKU strongly endorses.

The University's focus on continuous improvement and the highest academic standards was recognised by the Quality Assurance Council of the UGC, which conducted its third institutional audit of HKU in 2024. Staying ahead of the curve can be challenging in this ever-changing world but we are determined to prepare our students to anticipate, lead and trailblaze, and make impactful contributions to society.


Career AIgnition Day, which marked the launch of HKU's Career AI Initiatives, drew a full house of over 300 HKU students and staff and provided a unique opportunity for attendees to gain valuable insights into the rapidly evolving landscape of AI and its impact on career development.

# FIRST CLASS

**High-performing students from a variety of backgrounds enrolled in 2024, while innovations by our teachers won external awards.**

## OLYMPIC COMPETITOR

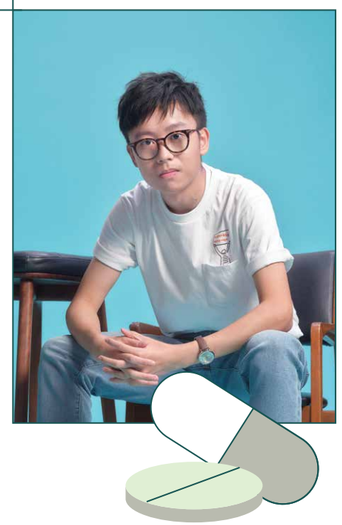
Olympian Cindy Cheung Sum Yuet joined HKU in September to pursue a Bachelor of Social Sciences in psychology and sociology. She was the youngest swimmer from Hong Kong to ever achieve the Olympic Qualifying Time and represented the city in the women's 100m and 200m backstroke at the Paris Olympics 2024. Ms Cheung came to HKU through the Top Athletes Direct Admission Scheme, but she also remains a full-time swimmer, training four hours a day on top of her studies. She hopes to compete in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

> I chose HKU because of its prestige and excellent learning facilities. I am fascinated by how much our psychological well-being affects our daily lives and I hope to understand more about how it might benefit my swimming career, too. One of the things I'm most looking forward to at HKU is furthering my knowledge in different fields, especially the wide variety of topics offered by the Common Core, and meeting new people from different cultural backgrounds.

Cindy Cheung Sum Yuet
Bachelor of Social Sciences

## TOP PERFORMER

President's Scholar Geoff Wong Shue Hei was a top scorer in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination and he received offers from top UK universities, such as Imperial College London. But he decided to pursue an MBBS at HKU because of the unique curriculum and opportunities offered. He was particularly attracted by the Enrichment Year, during which medical students pursue an interest – be it research, service or studying a new subject – before the demands of the clinical years kick in. HKUMed's Distinguished MedScholar programme for gifted students was also a factor in his decision, given the intensive research training and mentoring it offers.



> With the Distinguished MedScholar programme, my elite mentor has kindly given me guidance and provided inspiring exposure opportunities. Thanks to him, I can plan early on my future career in an informed manner. I also cannot overstate my excitement towards my university life in HKU's internationalised setting. I hope to connect and exchange ideas with the brightest minds from all over the globe.

Geoff Wong Shue Hei
Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery





## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Eirik Thorsten Fleck-Baustian comes from a multinational background – his parents are a combination of German, Norwegian and Hungarian and he lived in Shanghai for three years as a child. So when it came time to choose a university, the chance to explore a new place (he had never been to Hong Kong before) was a big pull. The chance to pursue his passion here – ecology and biodiversity studies – sealed the deal. He is now enrolled in the Bachelor of Science programme and hopes to become a conservational biologist to address the existential crisis threatening the natural world.

> I think I understand why HKU is such a highly ranked university and that is due to the progress that goes on in its research. Even as an undergraduate, I am learning of opportunities to contribute to the vastly diverse studies that are ongoing at the University. Seeing the great research opportunities here at HKU, I am also hoping to do some research in my fields of interest.

Eirik Thorsten Fleck-Baustian
Bachelor of Science

## AGENT FOR CHANGE

Anzal Tayyibah's aspiration to study at university was considered unusual where she grew up – many in her low-income neighbourhood told her she had unrealistic ambitions. But that only added fuel to her flame. With support from her parents, Ms Tayyibah performed well in her examinations and came to HKU through the School Nominations Direct Admission Scheme. She has enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Global Health and Development and hopes to become a public health consultant in under-served areas in places such as the Middle East and East Asia.

> I have always aspired to be an agent for change. From a young age, I became aware of the pressing issues in our world, such as poverty and infectious diseases, and I wanted to contribute meaningful solutions. I was drawn to HKU because of its top reputation, and to this programme because of its interdisciplinary approach and the six-month placement in an NGO, which will give me practical exposure.

Anzal Tayyibah
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Global Health and Development

# GLOBAL HONOURS FOR HKU TEACHERS

Two teaching teams from HKU were honoured in the 'Oscars' of education, the global Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Reimagine Education Awards, presented in Abu Dhabi in December 2023. The awards honour the most innovative and effective approaches to enhancing student learning and employability.

The HKU Common Core team won a Silver Award in the category 'Developing Emerging Skills and Competencies', for the success and scalability of the Common Core curriculum. Introduced in 2012, the Common Core requires students to step outside their disciplines and learn in the community and through a wide variety of media. All undergraduate students are required to select courses (from among more than 160 offered each year) in each of four thematic pillars – Science, Technology and Big Data; Arts and Humanities; Global Issues; and China: Culture, State and Society. A fifth pillar on artificial intelligence is planned for September 2025.

The team is led by the Common Core's Director Professor Julian Tanner, Dexter H C Man Family Professor in Medical Science, and Associate Director Dr Jack Tsao. Their submission to the QS Awards was titled 'Transdisciplinarity for Future Readiness'.


The Common Core project 'Transdisciplinarity for Future Readiness' led by Professor Julian Tanner (left) and Dr Jack Tsao (right) won silver in the 'Developing Emerging Skills and Competencies' category.


"Winning this award provides international recognition for our curriculum, which is a distinctive, effective and sustainable model for transdisciplinary education worldwide, especially in research-intensive universities," said Dr Tsao. "The transformative teaching and learning helps students develop a range of essential capacities that make them future-ready."

A team from HKUMed won a Bronze Award in 'The Power of Partnerships' category for their project titled 'Students as Co-Designers', which has formalised students as partners in the curriculum and promoted collaboration across disciplines and between students, educators and community experts. The project is led by Dr Khong Mei Li and includes Professor Julian Tanner, Dr Peter Lau and Dr Zheng Binbin, as well as Year 6 MBBS students Fok Jing Chen and Clement Ho and Year 5 MBBS students Winson Chan, Justin Ng, Monica Lee, and Odelle Wong.

Over the past three years, the team has engaged more than 100 student co-designers, more than 50 educators, and a dozen field experts and community partners, to develop more than 20 teaching and learning innovations, such as interactive worksheets that train students in systematic clinical investigation and diagnostic reasoning. More than 2,000 learners per year have benefitted.

"This award recognises how our initiative is significantly changing institutional teaching and learning culture. Students' learning has become more fit-for-practice. Student co-designers have shifted from passive to active learners. And educators have adopted new views of teaching and learning," Dr Khong said.

The HKUMed project 'Students as Co-Designers' led by Dr Khong Mei Li (first from left) won bronze in 'The Power of Partnerships' category.

# UGC TEACHING AWARD

A research-based, HKU-led team that equips students with all-round, whole-person competencies, such as leadership, critical thinking, integrity, resilience and the latest AI literacy, won the 2024 UGC Teaching Award in the category 'Collaborative Teams'.

The cross-institutional team is led by Professor Cecilia Chan, Professor in the Faculty of Education and former Director of the Teaching and Learning Innovation Centre, and includes Professor Samson Tse, Dean of Student Affairs at HKU, and professors from Lingnan University, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and Hong Kong Baptist University.

Their project, titled 'Holistic Competency and Virtues Education (HAVE)', provides competency development and professional development to universities and includes a framework and an accreditation model based around 14 competencies, that have set benchmarks in courses developing these competencies for thousands of students.

"Higher education has been largely focussed on disciplinary or professional knowledge, leaving a critical gap in students' overall development. Academic knowledge is indeed useful, but applying what we learn, caring for society, and loving our families are even more crucial. We hope our next generation will be well-rounded and compassionate – represented by HAVE," Professor Chan said.

The team plans to use the grant to establish a HAVE education centre in 2025 and launch online micro-courses to promote, assess and certify holistic abilities.


The Chairman of the University Grants Committee (UGC) Mr Tim Lui (third from right) presenting the 2024 UGC Teaching Award for Collaborative Teams to the team led by Professor Cecilia Chan (third from left), with members Professor Samson Tse (first from left), Professor Ben Chan (second from left), Professor Albert Ko (second from right) and Dr Theresa Kwong (first from right). (Courtesy of University Grants Committee)

# TECH SAVVY

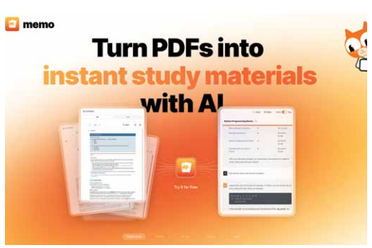
**Students have been embracing opportunities to apply AI and other technologies in the real world, through their own projects and HKU-organised internships.**

## MEMO TO SELF: STUDY MORE EFFICIENTLY

Two medical students, who laboured over learning large amounts of information for their pre-clinical studies, have devised an AI-powered platform that now has over 180,000 users across 30 different academic disciplines. Their start-up, Memo (formerly PDF2Anki), automates the creation of flashcards by making lecture slides, notes, presentations and other PDF files compatible with the Anki flashcard app. This saves hours of time that would be needed to do this manually.

The project began when Jason Chan Chi Shing (now MBBS Year 3) and Calvin Cheung Tin Chun (MBBS Year 4) were in their first year, and they developed it over weekends and study breaks. Mr Chan, who leads product development, received an Innovation and Technology Scholarship in August 2024 for his work from the Innovation and Technology Commission, HSBC and The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups.

“It was challenging to find time, but our passion for the project and its potential impact kept us motivated. What started as a solution to our own study challenges has grown into a tool helping students worldwide. This award is a validation of our work, and I plan to use the opportunity to further develop our AI capabilities and explore new technologies in the Greater Bay Area,” he said.




MBBS students and co-founders of Memo – Calvin Cheung (left) and Jason Chan (right).

A cross-faculty team of undergraduate students developed a cooling device that attaches to the safety helmets of construction workers.

## A COOL IDEA

A cross-faculty team of seven undergraduate students won the 2024 James Dyson Award Hong Kong for designing a cooling device that fits on the safety helmets of construction workers. The device mitigates heat stress, which can be a real threat to workers given the temperatures inside their helmets can soar up to 45 degrees Celsius when they are labouring in summer heat.

The project began when Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies students Jeff Li and Joseph Wong were in their first year and wanted to create something impactful. Initially, they focussed on a hands-free cooling solution for hikers, but then they realised the serious health risks facing construction workers. They began building prototypes, recruited friends studying engineering, business and law, and formed a company, Hay-koze, in 2022. Along the way, they received support from the Faculties of Architecture and Medicine, the Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing in the Faculty of Engineering, and the iDendron programme of HKU’s Techno-Entrepreneurship Core.

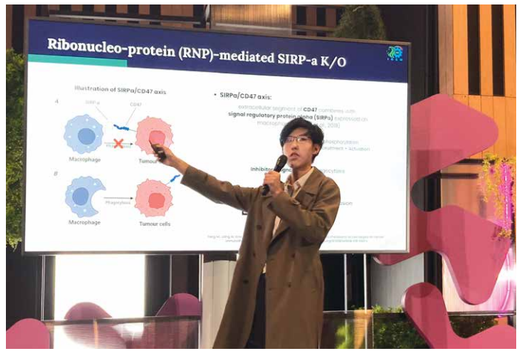
“We all graduated in 2024 and were wondering whether to invest full-time in this project, so winning the James Dyson Award gave us a massive confidence boost. We will continue pushing the project to maturity and we are seeking partnerships with major contractors in Hong Kong,” said Mr Li.

## CROSS-FACULTY TEAM WINS GOLD

A team of 25 students from the Faculties of Science, Medicine and Engineering earned a gold medal in the International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) 2023 Grand Jamboree, held in November. Student teams from around the world had been invited to develop solutions to global challenges using synthetic biology, and the HKU team engineered macrophages based on self-replicating RNA to enhance the treatment of solid cancerous tumours, particularly immunotherapy treatment. The students were supported by their faculties, the Common Core and the Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing.

Jim Cheung Chi Hung, now a fourth-year Bachelor of Science student and one of the team leaders, said they are continuing to develop their innovation further so that it can be more effective, accessible and affordable, and delivered simply via injection.

“This was a completely student-run team and the leadership, idea generation, team management, funding and direction were all decided by team members. It has given us students an unprecedented learning opportunity that cannot be received through final-year projects or internships,” he said.




Jim presenting a novel approach to remediating the issue of immune evasion during immunotherapy at the iGEM 2023 Grand Jamboree.

## OPPORTUNITY THROUGH AI INTERNSHIPS

HKU was the first university in Hong Kong to organise AI internships. In summer 2024, more than 100 students and more than 30 firms joined the programme arranged by the Centre of Development and Resources for Students. Among the student participants were third-year Bachelor of Engineering students Widjaja Edward Aryaguna, originally from Indonesia, and Oh Hyun Young, originally from Korea. Both students worked with Merck Pharmaceutical HK where they had opportunities to develop and optimise AI-based solutions related to sales orders and forecasting, and learn more about project management, design and proposal. Mr Aryaguna also successfully pitched a chatbot on product information for the sales and marketing team.

“All of the skills and new AI knowledge I gained will be very useful for my future career as an aspiring data scientist. In fact, utilising AI and machine learning models in a real-world setting is an experience most students at my level would not have,” Mr Aryaguna said.

He came to HKU because of the opportunities it offered, a view echoed by Mr Oh. “HKU aligns with my academic interests and offers invaluable networking opportunities through its strong connections with industry professionals. The AI internship not only expanded my technical knowledge but also provided me with insights on the workings of a multinational organisation.”


Merck Pharmaceutical HK hosted an end of internship award ceremony where Oh Hyun Young (first from left) and Widjaja Edward Aryaguna (centre) were presented with the Exemplary Progress Award in recognition of their dedication and hard work.

# RICHER EXPERIENCES

Students expanded their learning beyond the curriculum through their own initiative and through opportunities offered by new University programmes to pursue research and cross-cultural engagement.



Students presenting the outcomes of the Eureka research projects.


'Make Swe' was a seven-day volunteer trip to the Thai-Myanmar border with the aim of improving the living and learning environment of Myanmar migrants and refugees affected by the ongoing civil war in their home country.


Anthony (right) was awarded the Top Ten Tertiary Student Awards 2024 in recognition of his outstanding achievements in entrepreneurship.


HKU launched the GLOCAL Connect programme to build global bonds between local and non-local students.

## A EUREKA MOMENT

The EUREKA programme was launched in 2023–24 to offer undergraduate students the chance to acquire research skills, conduct a project through a free elective, and test their interest in research. Seventeen students joined, attending a module on research methods before producing their own research project.

Lam Kwan Yiu, currently a final-year Bachelor of Social Sciences student, had previously taken an online course on Latin American politics and diplomacy, so he decided to investigate an area that has received little attention – the historical interaction between Qing-era China and Latin America. Under the guidance of his supervisor, Professor Bárbara Fernández Melleda of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, he showed that promising bilateral diplomacy during the 19th century had been halted by the inward-looking Qing government.

"I love how the EUREKA course design gives us a glimpse of how research is practised. While other programmes teach us about research skills, few provide the opportunity for hands-on application. The programme also bridges the gap by allowing us to gain practical experience without having an impact on our final GPA, through the pass / fail grading system," Mr Lam said.

## BORDER CROSSINGS

A research study experience on the Thai-Myanmar border, organised by the Common Core Office, proved eye-opening and inspirational for Dicky Wong Tik. He attended in 2023 as a first-year Architecture student and felt a strong connection with the young refugees he met there, who struggled to access higher education. On returning to HKU, he questioned how he could help and began brainstorming with friends.

The result is a project entirely initiated and coordinated by mostly first- and second-year students from the Faculties of Architecture, Arts, Engineering and Social Sciences. In May 2024, they returned to the Thai-Myanmar border to learn about the issues faced by schools, organise art therapy and a design studio for students, and to develop solutions to problems, such as sealing the kitchen drain to keep out rats and purchasing new mattresses and lighting. They plan to return in early 2025 to help with a school construction project.

"Beyond the physical structures built and valuable insights gained, we take pride in the bonds we formed that transcended borders, cultures and ethnicities. In a place where support is often lacking, our experiences show that anything is possible with goodwill and collaboration," Mr Wong said.

## SUPER-ACHIEVER

Not many students establish a start-up in their teens, but Anthony Fung Pui Him has not only done that, he's gone one better: he is also founder of an NGO focussing on life-death education and compassion for those suffering from grief and loss.

Mr Fung co-founded his start-up, BOOST TEAM Ltd, while still in secondary school in 2018 to provide digital services and branding, such as social media marketing, for companies. The company has served more than 60 clients in construction, prefabrication, recycling and other fields. He also founded Grief Me Light in 2022 with friends studying psychology, which has organised more than 80 wellness events, published online education materials, launched a Life-Death Education Mobile Learning Truck and produced a music video on grief, among other things. Mr Fung graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2024 and is currently enrolled in the Master of Global Management programme.

"When I established my first company in high school, I did not truly understand what entrepreneurship was or how to manage a company. Studying at the HKU Business School, especially the Entrepreneurship, Design and Innovation programme, has been a cornerstone in my entrepreneurial journey and equipped me with knowledge, networks and skills," he said.

## GOING 'GLOCAL'

The Centre of Development and Resources for Students has stepped up programmes to better integrate non-local students into university life. One of these is GLOCAL Connect, which organises gatherings and outings for new non-local students and links them up with about 60 local students, who help them settle in, learn about local culture and traditions, and foster a sense of belonging. About 400 non-local students have been matched into small groups with the local volunteers.

Akhmedov Farrukh, a first-year Bachelor of Business Administration student from Tajikistan, is one of the newcomers. "This programme is helping me discover new places in Hong Kong and meet people. One of my wishes before coming to HKU was to make a lot of friends and this was a great opportunity to do so."

His local group member is Ernest Ong Kuan Tiam Tim, a second-year Bachelor of Social Sciences student. "I have been blown away by this programme. There are so many students from all over the world and I never truly understood the scale of the international community at HKU. I plan to introduce my partners to the highlights of Hong Kong and help them adjust to university life here."

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERY

The recruitment of top talent and the enhancement of research facilities are bringing recognition and support for our scholars and deepening our capacity to produce impactful research.

The University is making steady progress towards its aim of contributing knowledge and solutions to grand global challenges such as climate change and better healthcare. In 2023–24, world-leading academics continued to be recruited, new facilities built, networks expanded, and new centres launched to promote dialogue and collaboration. The quality of our efforts is evident in our continued funding success and strong ranking in international tables.

The list of achievements includes HKU again securing the most General Research Fund grants and leading locally in funding from the National Natural Science Foundation of China; 53 HKU scholars being named in Clarivate's prestigious 2024 Highly Cited Researchers list – our highest number ever; and the new Shanghai Institute for Science of Science (SISS) identifying HKU as first in China and sixth in the world in terms of disruptive research. Our research output was a major factor in HKU's rise to 17th overall best university in the world, our highest position to date, in the 2025 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.

The foundation of our research success is the excellence of our scholars, which is increasing every year as we recruit more and more leaders in their fields. In 2024 alone (up to November 1), we welcomed 124 top and rising scholars from leading institutions such as Stanford University, ETH Zurich and University College London. Having top minds on campus opens doors and opportunities for experienced and young scholars alike.

We are also nurturing new talent through our Graduate School by enriching research postgraduate (RPG) education. All RPG students will be required to complete new courses on artificial intelligence and data technology offered by the Graduate School and individual faculties. Feedback is also being enhanced through a new PhD advisory committee, in which dissertation supervisors work with two or three other professors to provide detailed responses. And the Graduate School has also launched its Future-Ready Series to promote all-round development, including mental wellness.

All this talent needs to be supported by world-class research infrastructure. Here, too, HKU is making strong inroads. The Tech Landmark, housing 10 interdisciplinary institutes when completed, will soon open its first phase. The Jockey Club STEM Lab programme announced in spring 2024 that five new laboratories would be established at HKU to promote interdisciplinary research and collaboration. Our five State Key Laboratories (SKL) also underwent evaluation at the national level and ranked highly, and a sixth SKL is planned. To make the most effective use of our resources, we are also preparing to centralise management of major equipment and introduce a sharing mechanism.

Apart from raising the bar in terms of people and facilities, HKU is advancing our research agenda by promoting collaborations across disciplines, institutions and boundaries. Several new research centres were established in 2023–24, including the Materials Innovation Institute for Life Sciences and Energy located in the Hetao Co-operation Zone. Our deepening engagement with Mainland China will undoubtedly be a springboard for expanding our research capacity in the coming years.





**Funding received for new research projects in 2023–24**

HK$
577.4
MILLION
funding from UGC and RGC

+

HK$
902.4
MILLION
funding from other sources

**Theme-based Research Scheme 2024–25**

3 out of 7 projects awarded to HKU

TOTAL VALUE
HK$
150.5
MILLION
INCLUDING ON-COSTS

HKU researchers are also participating in three other projects

**Strategic Topics Grant 2024–25**

2 out of 6 projects awarded to HKU

TOTAL VALUE
HK$
73.1
MILLION
EXCLUDING ON-COSTS

HKU researchers are also participating in two other projects

**General Research Fund 2024–25**

238
PROJECTS

HK$
237.2
MILLION

TOP RECIPIENT
of all Hong Kong tertiary institutions

**National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) / Research Grants Council (RGC) schemes 2024–25**

11
PROJECTS
awarded under NSFC / RGC Joint Research Scheme

3
PROJECTS
awarded under NSFC / RGC Collaborative Research Scheme

**National Natural Science Foundation of China awards for young scientists in 2024**

7 ACADEMICS
awarded under National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars

7 ACADEMICS
awarded under Excellent Young Scientists Fund

21 ACADEMICS
awarded under Young Scientists Fund

# GLOBAL LEADERS IN THE FIELD

**In 2024, Clarivate named 53 HKU academics to its Highly Cited Researchers list – our highest number ever. HKU ranks among the top 10 institutions globally by the number of top scholars. The scholars produced multiple highly cited research papers that ranked in the top 1% by citations during 2013–23.**

## CHEMISTRY

**Professor Dai Hongjie**
Department of Chemistry

**Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart**
Department of Chemistry

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Professor Huang Kaibin**
Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

**Professor Liu Yuanwei**
Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

## CROSS-FIELD

**Professor Ester Cerin**
School of Public Health

**Dr Chan Kwok Hung**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Dr Chan Wan Mui**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Professor Chen Honglin**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Professor Chen Zhiwei**
AIDS Institute; Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Professor Dong Renhao**
Department of Chemistry

**Professor Feng Yibin**
School of Chinese Medicine

**Professor Guo Zhengxiao**
Department of Chemistry

**Professor Huang Bo**
Department of Geography

**Professor Raven Kok Kin Hang**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Dr Eric Lau Ho Yin**
School of Public Health

**Professor Kathy Leung Sze Man**
School of Public Health

**Professor Li Yuguo**
Department of Mechanical Engineering

**Professor Liang Shunlin**
Department of Geography

**Professor Mak Tak Wah**
Department of Pathology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Professor Joseph Sriyal Malik Peiris**
School of Public Health

**Professor Leo Poon Lit Man**
School of Public Health

**Dr Vivian Shuai Huiping**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Dr Anthony Raymond Tam**
Department of Medicine, School of Clinical Medicine

**Professor Tang Chuyang**
Department of Civil Engineering

**Professor Wang Han**
Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

**Professor Ian Wong Chi Kei**
Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy

**Professor Wu Peng**
School of Public Health

**Professor Joseph Wu Tsz Kei**
School of Public Health

**Professor Yen Hui Ling**
School of Public Health

**Professor Kelvin Yeung Wai Kwok**
Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Dr Cyril Yip Chik Yan**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

**Dr Anna Zhang Jinxia**
Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine

# 53 HKU SCHOLARS

named to Clarivate's
2024 Highly Cited Researchers list

# 40%

of Hong Kong's Highly Cited Researchers

## GEOSCIENCES

Professor
Gong Peng

President's Office; Faculty of Science;
Faculty of Social Sciences

Professor
Liu Zhu

Department of Geography

Professor
Zhao Guochun

Department of Earth Sciences

Professor
Zhou Yuyu

Department of Geography

## IMMUNOLOGY

Mr Cai Jianpiao

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor Vincent
Cheng Chi Chung

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Ivan Hung Fan Ngai

Department of Medicine,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Gabriel Matthew Leung

School of Public Health

## IMMUNOLOGY, MICROBIOLOGY

Professor
Jasper Chan Fuk Woo

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Kelvin To Kai Wang

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Yuen Kwok Yung

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

## IMMUNOLOGY, SOCIAL SCIENCES

Professor
Benjamin John Cowling

School of Public Health

## MATERIALS SCIENCE

Professor
Li Lain Jong

Department of Mechanical Engineering

## MICROBIOLOGY

Professor
Chu Hin

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Tommy Lam Tsan Yuk

School of Public Health

Professor
Yuan Shuofeng

Department of Microbiology,
School of Clinical Medicine

Professor
Zhang Tong

Department of Civil Engineering

## PHYSICS

Professor
Yao Wang

Department of Physics

Professor
Zhang Shuang

Department of Electrical and
Electronic Engineering;
Department of Physics

Professor
Xiang Zhang

President's Office;
Faculty of Engineering;
Faculty of Science

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

Professor
Zhang Xiaoling

Department of Real Estate
and Construction

HKU is ranked

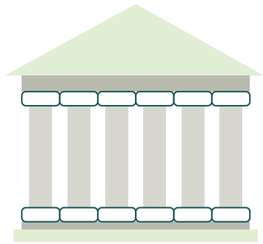
# 10th GLOBALLY

by the number of Highly Cited Researchers

# TALENT MAGNET

**Top scholars who joined HKU in 2023–24 are opening up collaborations and taking our research portfolio in new directions.**





HKU's strategic location offers an unparalleled opportunity to study China in a vibrant, dynamic environment. I have been deeply impressed by the tremendous support I have received here and appreciate the University's commitment to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment, which has been crucial in advancing my goals.

## PROFESSOR LI CHENG

Professor
Department of Politics and Public Administration

Director
Centre on Contemporary China and the World

Professor Li is an internationally renowned political scientist and think tank scholar, who previously served as Director and Senior Fellow of the Brookings Institution's John L. Thornton China Center. He is currently a director of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He came to HKU in 2023 as a professor of political science, attracted by its proximity to his cultural roots and, most importantly, its position as a bridge between East and West and North and South. Since arriving, he has established the Centre on Contemporary China and the World to promote scholarly exchanges and international and interdisciplinary research on China and the world.



I have had a very positive initial experience at the HKU Business School. A notable observation is the minimal boundaries between different disciplines, such as economics, management and strategy, finance and marketing, which has allowed me to engage with colleagues across diverse yet interconnected fields. I am particularly impressed by the new HKU Jockey Club Enterprise Sustainability Global Research Institute.

## PROFESSOR UTA SCHÖNBERG

Chair Professor of Economics
HKU Business School

Professor Schönberg joined HKU as Chair Professor of Economics from University College London in 2023. She has a strong reputation in labour economics, with a particular interest in the effects of business and payroll taxation on firms and workers, and firm-provided family-friendly policies. Most of her work to date has centred in Europe, so she was attracted to HKU by the opportunity to explore Asia and turn her research focus to the region. She hopes to explore the very low fertility rates in this part of the world compared to the US and most European countries, and investigate the root causes and societal impact of this.



Professor Häusser is a neuroscientist who has made important discoveries about the cellular mechanisms that underlie computation in the mammalian brain. He has helped develop and deploy powerful neuro-technologies, such as combining imaging and optogenetics, to study the function of neural circuits in the cerebellum and neocortex. He has also explored how single neurons and neural circuits drive behaviours and adapt during learning. Professor Häusser came to HKU in 2024 from University College London to become the new Director of the School of Biomedical Sciences and Chair Professor of Neuroscience, having been on the Scientific Advisory Board of the School since 2015.

## PROFESSOR MICHAEL HÄUSSER

Lee Man-Chiu Professor in Neuroscience

Director and Chair Professor of Neuroscience
School of Biomedical Sciences

I am very familiar with the School's strengths and potential so the opportunity to join as its new Director and capitalise on this environment to build new strengths in neuroscience was particularly appealing to me. I am excited by the prospect of bridging basic and clinical neuroscience to make major advances in understanding, preventing and treating neurological and psychiatric disorders.

# RISING STARS

**Young scholars are making a mark and earning recognition for their achievements.**

## PROFESSOR YANG YI

Assistant Professor
Department of Physics

Professor Yang of the Department of Physics, who is also Belinda Hung Outstanding Young Professor, has won multiple awards in recent years for his groundbreaking work in the field of nanophotonics and free-electron optics. This year, he was named the sole Hong Kong recipient of the Xplorer Prize 2024, which recognises outstanding young scientists under 45 who demonstrate exceptional quality and innovation in their fields of research, and he won the Croucher Tak Wah Mak Innovation Award. Previously, he was named a Physical Science Fellow in the inaugural Asian Young Scientist Fellowship in 2023 and one of the 2022 Innovators under 35 (China) by *MIT Technology Review*, among other honours. He joined HKU in 2022.

"HKU is a prestigious institution with a strong academic reputation both locally and internationally. It provides access to a wide range of research opportunities and resources and a collaborative environment. Also, the students here are great, and we are having fun together! This year, we derived a fundamental upper limit to the quantum interaction strength between free electrons and photons, which provides a simple golden rule of selecting electron and photon energy given their interaction separation. In future, we hope to observe exotic phenomena in light-matter interaction and use that for applications."


## PROFESSOR CARMEN WONG CHAK LUI

Associate Professor
Department of Pathology

Professor Wong in the Department of Pathology in the Faculty of Medicine has made important contributions towards understanding the major metabolic reprogramming machinery and immune evasion of liver cancer. In 2024, she received two major grants from national and local bodies to advance her research further. The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars of the National Natural Science Foundation of China awarded Professor Wong funds to explore the immune microenvironment of MASLD / MASH HCC – liver cancer involving metabolic dysfunctions, as opposed to viral triggers. She also received a Research Fellow Scheme grant from the Research Grants Council for work aimed at improving outcomes for patients with intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, a form of liver cancer with very poor treatment response, by focussing on the role played by mutations to the metabolic enzyme, IDH.

"HKU is where I built my interest in liver cancer research. HKUMed, in particular, has given me a lot of opportunities to develop my career. Looking ahead, I hope that by understanding the pathogenesis of various types of liver cancer, our work can be potentially translated into new biomarkers and drugs that can be used clinically to achieve effective personalised treatment for liver cancer patients."



Professor Chen of the Division of Landscape Architecture was named one of the Top 50 Rising Stars by Geospatial World in 2024 in recognition of his work investigating the interaction loop between environmental change, human activities and public health. He uses geospatial big data and advanced interdisciplinary methods, and he has established the Future Urbanity & Sustainable Environment (FUSE) Lab at HKU to study how more sustainable and healthy cities can be achieved. Among his significant findings, he was the first to identify on a global scale the significant disparities in greenspace exposure between cities in the Global South and North.

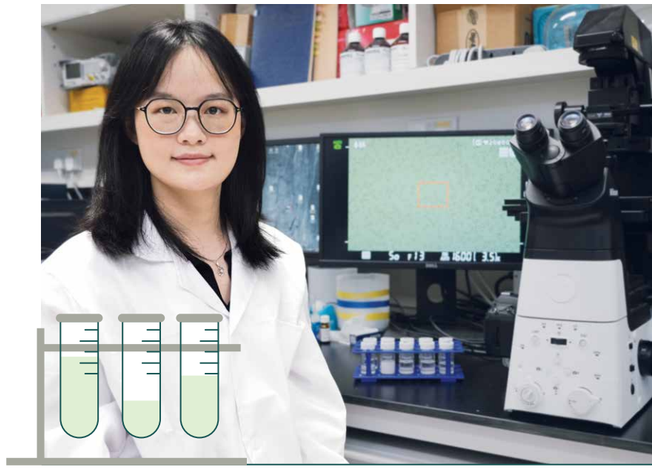
"HKU has been an excellent platform for both teaching and research, with opportunities for cross-faculty and cross-discipline collaboration. I engage and work closely with experts from social science, economics, computing, data science and engineering, which is fundamentally important to addressing complex systemic issues. I also work closely and learn from students and peers. The FUSE Lab has rapidly evolved into a vibrant research hub, and I enjoy working with students and postdocs to tackle pressing environmental challenges and nurturing the next generation of scientists and scholars in this field."

## PROFESSOR CHEN BIN

Assistant Professor
Department of Architecture

Dr Lyu, who recently completed her PhD in chemistry at HKU, was the first nominee from Hong Kong to be awarded the Schmidt Science Fellow, one of the most prestigious postdoctoral fellowships in the world. The fellowship allows her to be based in a top-ranking university – she has chosen the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) – in a field that pivots from her PhD specialisation. Dr Lyu's research has focussed on colloidal synthesis and self-assembly, where she has developed strategies for assembling anisotropic colloidal particles into hierarchical superstructures. Her findings hold exciting potential applications in optics, photonics, and cargo delivery. At MIT, she is based in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, researching soft materials and systems for advancing health and sustainability.

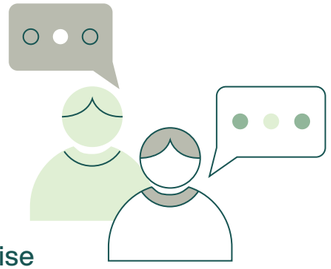
"My experience at HKU was crucial in helping me achieve the fellowship. My advisor's invaluable mentorship, the supportive lab environment, and opportunities to collaborate with distinguished researchers from HKU and abroad sharpened my research direction and provided new perspectives to tackle complex challenges. The funding opportunities and state-of-the-art facilities at HKU also supplied essential resources for my projects, enabling me to produce high-quality research."



## DR LYU DENGPING

PhD Graduate
Department of Chemistry

# CENTRES OF COLLABORATION



**HKU welcomed several new initiatives in 2023–24 to formalise and strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration in key areas and provide new solutions for the challenges of our times.**

## MATERIALS INNOVATION INSTITUTE FOR LIFE SCIENCES AND ENERGY


The Materials Innovation Institute for Life Sciences and Energy is an HKU institute established in the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone.

The Materials Innovation Institute for Life Sciences and Energy (MILES) aims to produce highly disciplinary research in materials chemistry for life sciences and renewable energy. It was established in 2024 in the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone with access to support on both sides of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen border and 12,000 square metres of state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities such as a small animal centre and a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) laboratory. MILES aspires to become one of the top institutes of its kind in the world and is seeking world-class faculty at both junior and senior levels to collaborate and conduct high-risk, high-reward and high-impact research. Already, more than 20 HKU professors from science, engineering and medicine have established a presence there.

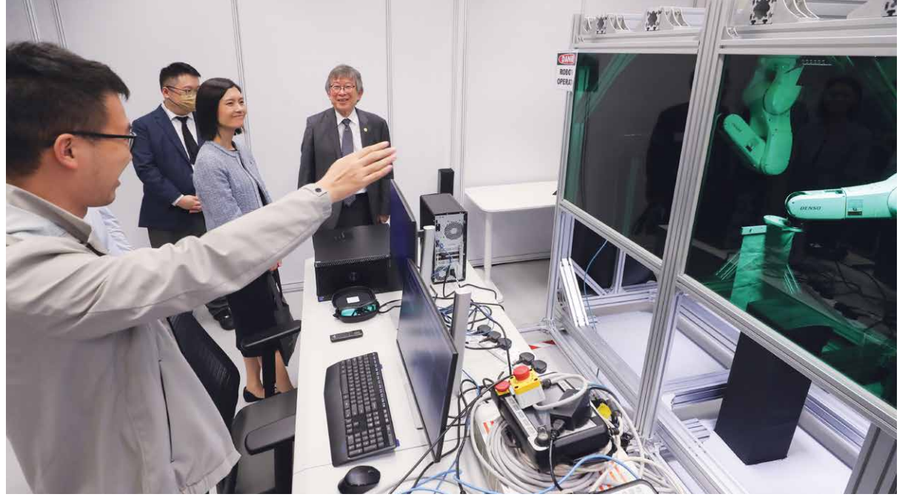
## CENTRE ON CONTEMPORARY CHINA AND THE WORLD

The interdisciplinary Centre on Contemporary China and the World (CCCW) aims to foster a deeper understanding of China's complex socio-political landscape and global governance amidst challenges such as economic turbulence, environmental degradation, technological transformation and geopolitical challenges. In its first year, it organised 22 public events, including its inaugural conference in December 2023, titled 'A Renewed Hub and a New Horizon', that brought together experts, policymakers and industry leaders to discuss China's evolving role. The CCCW also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Sci-Tech Inno Center for Infection & Immunity led by internationally renowned medical doctor Zhang Wenhong, with which it also launched the Climate-Ocean-Health Study Interdisciplinary Observer Network (COHESION), and it established the 'Leading Edge Academic Publications' monograph series. So far, 27 HKU-affiliated fellows and 25 non-resident fellows have been recruited to the CCCW.


HKU's Centre on Contemporary China and the World signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Sci-Tech Inno Center for Infection & Immunity during the Pujiang Innovation Forum 2024.







A visit to the JC STEM Lab of Robotics for Soft Materials.

## FIVE JOCKEY CLUB STEM LABS

With generous support of HK$48.51 million from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, five Jockey Club (JC) STEM Labs were established at HKU to nurture future leaders in STEM fields and facilitate interdisciplinary research and collaboration. The five JC STEM Labs will examine complex problems and solutions in areas ranging from health and food security to water usage and environmental preservation, with a focus on scientific and technological underpinnings. The five labs are: Advanced 3D Integrated Circuit Technology; Molecular Imaging; Multimedia and Machine Learning; Quantitative Remote Sensing; and Robotics for Soft Materials.


Five JC STEM Labs were established at HKU to foster innovative and sustainable research for driving projects to examine complex problems and solutions.

## SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS

Researchers at HKU pursued collaboration and dialogue to move sustainability and climate change up the agenda in 2024. The HKU Jockey Club Enterprise Sustainability Global Research Institute, led by the Faculty of Business and Economics, was launched to promote collaborative research on best practices and innovative solutions related to environmental, social and governance challenges in sustainability. Furthermore, the Institute for Climate and Carbon Neutrality organised the Hong Kong Climate Forum in March, bringing together experts, policymakers, business leaders and stakeholders from the United States and China, in particular the San Francisco Bay Area and Greater Bay Area. The Institute aims to build a bridge for climate action and co-operation. It has also launched a new Master of Climate Governance and Risk Management programme.


HKU hosted its inaugural Hong Kong Climate Forum in March, bringing together experts, policymakers, business leaders and stakeholders from both the United States and China to promote greater collaboration on climate change and clean energy.

TECH TRANSFER AND
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

# IMPACT ON SOCIETY

HKU is building a culture and infrastructure to help scholars and students maximise the impact of their start-ups and discoveries and leverage opportunities in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area.

Technology transfer and knowledge exchange are how we apply our research and know-how to help society advance and meet challenges. The University has been expanding efforts to maximise the impact of our research and support scholars and students to take their initiatives into the wider world.

The standout development of the year was the launch of the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy (TEA), a collaboration with Shenzhen Qianhai to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and technological advancement in the Greater Bay Area. Training programmes, themed accelerators and industry collaborations are offered, as well as space for HKU's training and incubation platform, iDendron@Qianhai. During the TEA's official opening ceremony in September 2024, we announced the first batch of 11 HKU-linked start-ups admitted to the TEA and we inaugurated two major initiatives for HKU start-ups: the Entrepreneurship Engine Fund, which now has its first batch of investment partners and aims to amass more than HK$400 million in investment funds, and the HKU Super Angel Network, which is mobilising our alumni to back early-stage start-ups.

The TEA is part of our determination to foster an entrepreneurial culture at HKU, which we are promoting by facilitating students and staff to launch their own start-ups. Students trained through HKU-based iDendron programmes launched 36 start-ups in 2023–24. The DeepTech100 incubation programme, announced two years ago with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, has so far launched 81 research-based start-ups.


The HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy in Shenzhen Qianhai is designed to be a hub for aspiring entrepreneurs and technologists, providing them with the resources, mentorship, and support needed to transform innovative ideas into successful ventures.


The first cohort of 11 start-ups stationed at the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy.


HKU's innovative research novelties won 42 awards at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva.

81 DEEPTECH100 START-UPS
supported since 2022, with up to HK$1.39 million each in funding


HKU and the Centre of Science and Technology Industrial Development of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding during the Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Forum 2024 in March.

Individual faculties in the University also have programmes to encourage entrepreneurship, such as the Faculty of Engineering's Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing, which held about 200 activities and events in 2023–24 for 10,000 participants.

These efforts have brought measurable results. For example, HKU researchers had their strongest performance ever at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva, winning 42 awards for 40 inventions. They also continued translating their research – there are now 310 active start-ups affiliated with HKU, and we had 121 newly granted patents in 2023–24.

The University is also engaging Mainland China in tech transfer with the first nationwide HKU Innovation & Entrepreneurship Challenge held in December 2023 and Memorandums of Understanding signed with such organisations as China Mobile (Hong Kong) Innovation Research Institute, Hongdu Aviation, and the Centre of Science and Technology Industrial Development of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development.

Entrepreneurship is not the only way of making impact, of course. The University also funds impact projects mapped to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and in 2023–24, we awarded 14 such projects up to HK$500,000 each under the Strategic Impact Scheme. We are also encouraging everyone to communicate their work with the message: bring your research into the world and start to make an impact.



20 IMPACT PROJECTS awarded in 2023–24

14 PROJECTS each received up to HK$500,000 under the Strategic Impact Scheme

6 PROJECTS each received up to HK$150,000 under the Impact Project Scheme

310 ACTIVE START-UPS founded since 2017

121 NEWLY GRANTED PATENTS in 2023–24

42 AWARDS received at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva, including TWO SPECIAL GRAND PRIZES

# STARTING UP

**HKU professors, supported by programmes such as HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy and Start-up Connector, have been launching start-ups and other initiatives that bring their research and discoveries into the world.**

Professor Huang Mingxin introducing Dynano Semiconductor, which is among the first batch of 11 start-ups based at the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy.


A presentation by BiomOrgan Ltd at the Demo Day event, which was part of the Grand Opening Ceremony for the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy.

## DYNAMIC PERFORMANCE

A high-tech start-up incubated at HKU, Dynano Semiconductor, is revolutionising the semiconductor materials landscape by addressing the critical thermal failure issues in third-generation semiconductors. These devices are widely used in automobiles, high-speed trains and energy storage systems and the innovation, by Professor Huang Mingxin of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, provides new copper sintering material to solve the thermal pain point. Professor Huang founded Dynano in 2023 and it was recently included in the first batch of companies officially admitted to the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy, which provides the necessary physical space, as well as access to Shenzhen's comprehensive supply chain and the national market.

"Our company's slogan is 'Material Innovation, World Inspiration'. We want to be one of the best companies in providing materials solutions to the semiconductor industry. We have already started testing our products with carmakers and we expect to have a first sale by early 2025," Professor Huang said.

## START-UP CONNECTS

BiomOrgan Ltd, founded by Professor Zhou Jie of the School of Clinical Medicine, has been one of the beneficiaries at HKU's Techno-Entrepreneurship Core (TEC), including its new Start-up Connector programme which matches academic entrepreneurs with talent, customers and other resources. Professor Zhou led a team that developed a complete respiratory organoid culture system from adult stem cells, which is the first of its kind to efficiently reconstruct and reproducibly expand the entire human respiratory epithelium in culture plates. She met her industry co-founder at a top-talent meetup event organised by TEC in February 2024, which accelerated development and business growth. The start-up has also received support from TSSSU@HKU, which is administered by the Technology Transfer Office (TTO), and been admitted to the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation's Incu-Bio programme.

"Thanks to the support of the TTO and TEC, we have achieved considerable progress. Our ultimate goal is to realise the great potential of organoid technology and build Hong Kong as a leading international hub of this technology, serving academia and industry locally and worldwide," she said.





Combining stir-frying, mixing, and precision heating techniques, the multicooker developed by Professor Chen Guanhua and his team can quickly and efficiently prepare and plate up food. (Courtesy of *Hong Kong Economic Journal*)

## INTRODUCING THE ROBOT CHEF

A chemistry professor has developed a robotic multicooker that can automatically add ingredients from the refrigerator to the pot and stir, cook and plate up food. The device, by Chair Professor Chen Guanhua and his team, was inspired by his own experience opening a restaurant 12 years ago, when he encountered a high turnover in chefs. The multicooker can cook up to 200 different recipes from Hunan, Sichuan and Italian cuisines in just a few minutes. Professor Chen and his team, including doctoral, MPhil and bachelor graduates from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, spent years perfecting and testing the device and founded a start-up, Hestia Technology Ltd, to bring it to market. In 2023 they had their first overseas sale to Japan and this year to the US. Professor Chen also uses the multicooker in some of his own restaurants.

"Many restaurants in Hong Kong and elsewhere have difficulty retaining chefs. We have set up a factory in Hong Kong to produce 3,000 multicooker units a year, and we hope our company can grow into a HK$2 billion a year business," he said.


Professor Sun Dong (fourth from right), HKSAR Government's Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, paid a visit to Hestia Technology Ltd, an HKU start-up founded by Professor Chen Guanhua (fourth from left).

## AI TOOL TO ASSESS CHINESE WRITING

The Faculty of Education has developed an AI-powered platform to help teachers generate content and assess a student's Chinese writing performance on various aspects of language. The mAI Mind platform was being piloted in 10 primary schools and four secondary schools in 2024, who so far report that it gives timely and personalised feedback to students and improves their writing attitudes and motivation. The project is led by Professor Elizabeth Loh Ka Yee, Assistant Dean (Knowledge Exchange), who said they are developing the platform's ability to do school-based grading and plan to extend it to more schools and institutions teaching Chinese in various countries. The project has been supported by a TSSSU@HKU grant and was selected for the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation's incubation programme in 2020–23.

"The mAI Mind platform adheres to established educational standards and linguistic theories that not only guarantee the relevance and quality of the feedback, but also significantly reduce the time teachers need to spend on the assessment process, allowing them to concentrate on other instructional aspects," Professor Loh said.

A research team in the Faculty of Education launched the mAI Mind platform, an innovative AI-powered Chinese writing assessment platform for transforming teaching and learning experience in primary and secondary schools.

# STUDENT INITIATIVES

**Programmes offered at HKU have helped students build up their entrepreneurial capabilities and launch their own start-ups.**


Introducing the innovative work of Saint Novel Biotech Ltd at the University of Oxford.

## AI DRUG DISCOVERY START-UP

An HKU-linked start-up to speed up drug discovery by harnessing generative AI to identify and design dual-purpose therapeutic targets and drugs for ageing and age-related diseases such as cancer, has quickly won numerous competitions overseas, government support from Hong Kong and Mainland China cities, and growing interest from venture capitalists in the US and UK. Saint Novel Biotech Ltd was started when PhD (Bioinformatics) candidate Yin Danqing met PhD (Bioinformatics) graduate Li Zhuoxuan in the Lean Launcher programme, a collaboration of HKU's DeepTech100 and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP). They had been working on separate projects but decided to co-found Saint Novel, attracting scholars from Nobel Prize winners' labs in the University of Cambridge, University of Washington and Harvard University to join.

"Our mission is to develop first-in-class, dual-purpose drugs for ageing and age-related diseases to redefine future medicine. We recognise the immense global challenges posed by an ageing population and the escalating prevalence of age-related diseases, so we are focussing our efforts on groundbreaking technologies, such as generative AI, spatial omics and metabolic programming. Our core team is already well-accomplished, having published over 50 papers in prestigious journals and successfully been admitted to the Incu-Bio programme at HKSTP," Ms Yin said.

## WRITE RIGHT

A student-led company is one of the first 11 start-ups admitted to the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy in Qianhai, Shenzhen, where its founders are tapping into a wider market. WeWrites Ltd develops affordable, AI-powered educational tools to help teachers and students with a variety of tasks, such as marking, task management, exam preparation, teacher training, and student tutoring and personalised support. The start-up was founded by second-year students from the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Financial Technology programme – Lucas Martins and Calvin Xu, who earlier received mentorship, networking and other support through HKU's DeepTech100 programme and iDendron. Their plans are to develop the platform further with such things as handwriting recognition and expand to physical locations for lessons and the publication of books.

"The idea for WeWrites came from witnessing the intense competition in Mainland China's educational landscape, where many talented students struggle with the Gaokao exams," Mr Martins said. "As a high scorer in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, I wanted to leverage technology to create equal educational opportunities. We now have a team of experienced educators and tech enthusiasts, and we have established partnerships with several Chinese private schools and educational institutions, with more in advanced discussions."


As one of the first cohort of companies at the HKU Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy in Qianhai, WeWrites is strategically positioned to expand into the Mainland market.




Edoardo Francesco Sabatino, CEO of ClimateKick, at the pitching competition of the Hong Kong Green FinTech Summit, a flagship event of Hong Kong Green Week.

## GREEN INVESTING

Edoardo Francesco Sabatino, a 2023 graduate of the EMBA-Global Asia programme, founded a Green FinTech start-up that is making significant strides in connecting green investors with renewable project developers. ClimateKick was established during Mr Sabatino's year abroad at Columbia Business School. The team, comprising members from Europe, USA, and Asia, leverages FinTech to equip investors with tools for assessing and monitoring the financial and sustainability performance of firms, while also facilitating capital access for emerging green projects.

Supported by HKU's DeepTech programme and others, the company initiated fundraising efforts this autumn, with plans for a forthcoming HK$4.5 million round. They were also invited to participate in the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's FiNETech series which, among other things, promotes next-level collaboration on GreenTech. Mr Sabatino said ClimateKick also tackles greenwashing by rigorously vetting projects and is developing proprietary climate AI models to offer insights to both green project developers and investors.

"Our strength lies in our specialised focus on climate investments. We are forging trusted relationships with highly technical developers and transparency-driven investors. Our vision is to evolve into a digital green investment bank that seamlessly matches multiple green project opportunities with investors," he said.


QualiFly was named as a Top 8 Social Start-up in the 2024 Hult Prize Nairobi Global Summit.

## QUALIFLY: PERSONALISING EDUCATION WITH AI

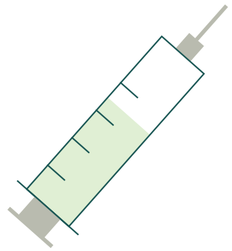
A student-led start-up finished in the top eight of the Hult Prize 2024, a global competition that drew 100,000 teams that previously won regional competitions and were selected to represent their country. The Hult Prize is the largest pitch competition in the world run in partnership with the United Nations and challenges youth entrepreneurs to solve pressing issues through social entrepreneurship. The HKU team, QualiFly, is an AI EdTech start-up that disrupts traditional teaching and learning with AI tutors and assistants, providing personalised experiences based on students' strengths and weaknesses. More than 2,000 users have used QualiFly's products, which were developed in collaboration with teachers and education technology experts.

The team is led by Matthew Chan, a PCLL candidate, and includes final-year student in the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Applied Artificial Intelligence, Jose Abraham, and recent graduate of that programme Kaustubh Nigami, as well as Jason Cheung from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. "Being able to represent Hong Kong and be named a top eight finalist out of 100,000 teams globally has been a significant milestone for us. It has reinforced our belief that AI can enhance education and make it more accessible. The experience has also connected us with a vibrant community of passionate entrepreneurs," Mr Chan said.

# SEEN AND HEARD

**HKU discoveries and capabilities were recognised this year internationally and in major funding exercises.**


Vitogram achieves 97% accuracy in estimating heart rate and 81% accuracy in detecting significant valvular heart disease.




The project titled 'Research and development of the lead Δ42PD1 antibody drug as an immunotherapy against cancers and infections' led by Professor Chen Zhiwei (centre) was one of the three projects awarded funding under the HKSAR Government's inaugural RAISe+ Scheme.

## RAISING THE PROFILE

Professor Chen Zhiwei, Chair Professor of Immunology and Immunotherapy, Suen Chi-Sun Professor in Clinical Science and Director of HKU's AIDS Institute, received two large grants in 2024 that are propelling the development of new treatments for liver cancer and HIV, respectively. Under the government's new Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus (RAISe+) Scheme to promote collaboration and the commercialisation of research, Professor Chen received support for a promising antibody drug he developed against cancers and infections, and he has formed a start-up Orimmune to take the drug to clinical trials with industry partner, Immuno Cure.

Professor Chen also received a Theme-based Research Scheme grant this year to advance a therapeutic vaccine he developed that has potential for ART-free HIV-1 control. Working again with Immuno Cure, as well as the Chinese University of Hong Kong and participating hospitals in Mainland China, the vaccine will undergo an Investigator Initiated Trial and phase two clinical trial.

"These are two big projects to be happening at the same time, but we have already built our teams and we have support from the company and the hospital teams. The beauty of this work is that we identified targets and created new therapies, over more than a decade of work. We are doing first-in-class new drug discovery and clinical development," he said.

## AI DOCTOR IN YOUR POCKET

A software system that can turn an ordinary mobile phone into a medical-grade stethoscope was awarded a Gold Medal with Congratulations of the Jury at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva. Vitogram uses AI to collect and analyse heart sounds for early valvular heart disease detection. Preliminary analysis of the first 363 patients in a clinical study revealed that the phone-based AI model could detect significant valvular disease with an accuracy rate of 81% – similar to a traditional electronic stethoscope. Its success also bodes well for its use in personalised health management, heart disease screening, use of telemedicine and remote disease monitoring.

A start-up company, Vitome Ltd, has been established to commercialise the technology and Vitogram has been registered as a medical device with the US Food and Drug Administration. It was developed by a team led by Professor Joshua Ho Wing Kei in the School of Biomedical Sciences, who calls it an "AI doctor in your pocket".

"Detection and analysis of heart sounds is just the first application of Vitogram. We are developing additional sound-based AI systems that fully harness this under-appreciated modality in the field of digital health, and we are running clinical studies to fully validate the applicability of our various digital health systems," he said.

The SUPPORT+ team had booths in different hospitals to promote cancer awareness and prevention.

## SUPPORT+ FOR CANCER PATIENTS

SUPPORT+ is an initiative by HKUMed's Department of Clinical Oncology, led by Professor Wendy Chan Wing Lok, to support advanced cancer patients and their families. It offers comprehensive information in three languages on cancer management, palliative care, and social support resources through a mobile app, dedicated website and active social media engagement. The content is tailored for patients and caregivers of various cancer types and was created in collaboration between the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Social Sciences. Registered users, primarily patients and caregivers from the Hospital Authority, can record symptoms on the app and communicate directly with palliative care nurses. SUPPORT+ has been instrumental in aiding families through challenging times.

"Our goal is to enhance home care during the arduous journey of cancer. Over the past year, more than 1,300 families have found our service invaluable. We plan to integrate advanced technologies, including AI, and add more videos and animations to enrich user experience and expand our reach," said Professor Chan, adding that SUPPORT+ remains dedicated to evolving and meeting the needs of cancer patients and their families, ensuring effective care management and robust support.

# THE UNIVERSITY PROFILE

Some percentages or figures in this section do not add up to 100% or total owing to rounding.

## STUDENTS*

### STUDENT ADMISSION

New intakes

| | All | Undergraduate | Taught Postgraduate | Research Postgraduate |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2023–24 | 16,794 | 4,638 | 11,067 | 1,089 |
| Male | 7,021 | 2,100 | 4,348 | 573 |
| Female | 9,773 | 2,538 | 6,719 | 516 |
| % Non-local (Based on Nationality) | 60.7% | 25.5% | 72.9% | 87.1% |
| 2022–23 | 15,340 | 4,844 | 9,565 | 931 |
| Male | 6,462 | 2,296 | 3,661 | 505 |
| Female | 8,878 | 2,548 | 5,904 | 426 |
| % Non-local (Based on Nationality) | 57.5% | 29.5% | 69.1% | 84.7% |

### ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS ON ALL PROGRAMMES

| Faculty | Undergraduate | | Taught Postgraduate | | Research Postgraduate | | All Levels | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 |
| Architecture | 745 | 730 | 863 | 768 | 179 | 163 | 1,787 | 1,661 |
| Arts | 1,942 | 1,871 | 1,474 | 1,076 | 188 | 225 | 3,604 | 3,172 |
| Business and Economics | 3,189 | 3,076 | 5,264 | 4,562 | 194 | 179 | 8,647 | 7,817 |
| Dentistry | 486 | 466 | 92 | 83 | 157 | 120 | 735 | 669 |
| Education | 909 | 939 | 1,453 | 1,413 | 237 | 248 | 2,599 | 2,600 |
| Engineering | 2,620 | 2,558 | 2,721 | 2,405 | 1,057 | 933 | 6,398 | 5,896 |
| Law | 581 | 569 | 1,215 | 1,145 | 95 | 96 | 1,891 | 1,810 |
| Medicine | 3,534 | 3,485 | 1,037 | 937 | 996 | 908 | 5,567 | 5,330 |
| Science | 2,764 | 2,626 | 840 | 708 | 721 | 684 | 4,325 | 4,018 |
| Social Sciences | 1,721 | 1,708 | 1,582 | 1,445 | 269 | 261 | 3,572 | 3,414 |
| Non-faculty-based | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 41 | 0 | 41 | 0 |
| All Faculties | 18,491 | 18,028 | 16,541 | 14,542 | 4,134 | 3,817 | 39,166 | 36,387 |
| In % Distribution | 47.2% | 49.5% | 42.2% | 40.0% | 10.6% | 10.5% | 100% | 100% |

* All student statistics shown above include students on UGC-funded, self-funded as well as outreach programmes. Exchange-in and visiting students are excluded.





### ENROLMENT OF NON-LOCAL STUDENTS (BASED ON NATIONALITY)

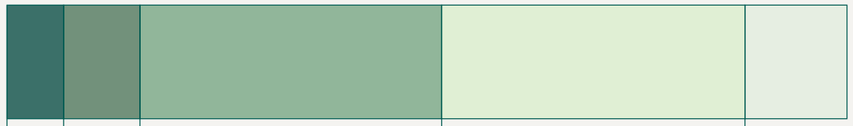
| Region | Undergraduate | | Taught Postgraduate | | Research Postgraduate | | All Levels | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 |
| | Headcount | | | | | | | |
| Mainland China | 3,180 | 2,887 | 9,849 | 7,769 | 3,115 | 2,749 | 16,144 | 13,405 |
| Other Asian Countries | 1,416 | 1,522 | 380 | 316 | 194 | 212 | 1,990 | 2,050 |
| Australia and New Zealand | 73 | 64 | 41 | 61 | 11 | 14 | 125 | 139 |
| European Countries | 166 | 207 | 162 | 189 | 80 | 88 | 408 | 484 |
| North American Countries | 138 | 134 | 156 | 158 | 49 | 54 | 343 | 346 |
| Others e.g. Central and South America, African Countries | 40 | 30 | 67 | 39 | 28 | 32 | 135 | 101 |
| All Regions | 5,013 | 4,844 | 10,655 | 8,532 | 3,477 | 3,149 | 19,145 | 16,525 |
| | % | | | | | | | |
| Mainland China | 63.4% | 59.6% | 92.4% | 91.1% | 89.6% | 87.3% | 84.3% | 81.1% |
| Other Asian Countries | 28.2% | 31.4% | 3.6% | 3.7% | 5.6% | 6.7% | 10.4% | 12.4% |
| Australia and New Zealand | 1.5% | 1.3% | 0.4% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.4% | 0.7% | 0.8% |
| European Countries | 3.3% | 4.3% | 1.5% | 2.2% | 2.3% | 2.8% | 2.1% | 2.9% |
| North American Countries | 2.8% | 2.8% | 1.5% | 1.9% | 1.4% | 1.7% | 1.8% | 2.1% |
| Others e.g. Central and South America, African Countries | 0.8% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 0.5% | 0.8% | 1.0% | 0.7% | 0.6% |
| All Regions | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

## HKU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION (HKU SPACE)

### ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS IN PROGRAMMES RUN BY HKU SPACE IN 2023–24

All Local Programmes

95,294



| Postgraduate Programmes | Degree Programmes (Including Full-time Degree Programmes) | Sub-degree Programmes | General / Short Courses (Including Non-award Bearing Professional Courses) | Community College Programmes (Full-time Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6,425 | 8,659 | 34,231 | 34,404 | 11,575 |

# GRADUATES*

## GRADUATES OF ALL PROGRAMMES

Cumulative Number of Alumni as of August 2024 **294,200**

| | All | Undergraduate | Taught Postgraduate | Research Postgraduate |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2023–24 | 15,229 | 4,050 | 10,438 | 741 |
| Male | 6,013 | 1,790 | 3,857 | 366 |
| Female | 9,216 | 2,260 | 6,581 | 375 |
| % Non-local (Based on Nationality) | 59.2% | 22.1% | 72.3% | 77.6% |
| 2022–23 | 13,256 | 3,847 | 8,747 | 662 |
| Male | 5,334 | 1,676 | 3,313 | 345 |
| Female | 7,922 | 2,171 | 5,434 | 317 |
| % Non-local (Based on Nationality) | 54.0% | 23.0% | 65.6% | 80.1% |

## DISTRIBUTION OF NON-LOCAL GRADUATES (BASED ON NATIONALITY)

| Region | Undergraduate | | Taught Postgraduate | | Research Postgraduate | | All Levels | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2022–23 |
| | Headcount | | | | | | | |
| Mainland China | 478 | 422 | 7,132 | 5,318 | 496 | 453 | 8,106 | 6,193 |
| Other Asian Countries | 328 | 356 | 213 | 189 | 44 | 37 | 585 | 582 |
| Australia and New Zealand | 16 | 12 | 26 | 39 | 2 | 3 | 44 | 54 |
| European Countries | 35 | 65 | 90 | 107 | 16 | 20 | 141 | 192 |
| North American Countries | 31 | 29 | 82 | 78 | 13 | 9 | 126 | 116 |
| Others e.g. Central and South America, African Countries | 8 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 18 | 18 |
| All Regions | 896 | 885 | 7,549 | 5,740 | 575 | 530 | 9,020 | 7,155 |
| | % | | | | | | | |
| Mainland China | 53.3% | 47.7% | 94.5% | 92.6% | 86.3% | 85.5% | 89.9% | 86.6% |
| Other Asian Countries | 36.6% | 40.2% | 2.8% | 3.3% | 7.7% | 7.0% | 6.5% | 8.1% |
| Australia and New Zealand | 1.8% | 1.4% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.6% | 0.5% | 0.8% |
| European Countries | 3.9% | 7.3% | 1.2% | 1.9% | 2.8% | 3.8% | 1.6% | 2.7% |
| North American Countries | 3.5% | 3.3% | 1.1% | 1.4% | 2.3% | 1.7% | 1.4% | 1.6% |
| Others e.g. Central and South America, African Countries | 0.9% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.7% | 1.5% | 0.2% | 0.3% |
| All Regions | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

* All graduate statistics shown above include graduates on UGC-funded, self-funded as well as outreach programmes.





# NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES#

2023–24
**376**
2022–23
370

| | |
|---|---|
| Undergraduate | 63<br>65 |
| Taught Postgraduate | 160<br>157 |
| Research Postgraduate | 153<br>148 |

# Number of programmes listed above include where applicable, programmes offered in the full-time and part-time modes which are counted as separate programmes. The counting of research postgraduate programmes is based on the academic departments with research postgraduate students enrolled in the year under reference.

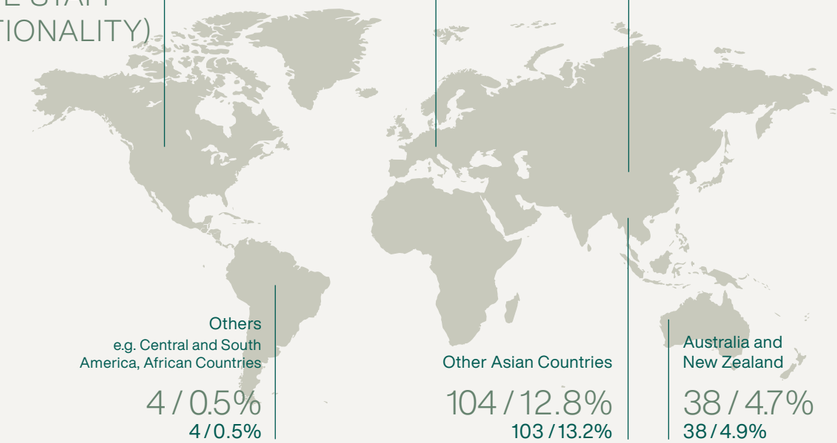
# STAFF+

## NUMBER OF STAFF IN HEADCOUNT

| | All | Professoriate | Research and Non-professoriate Teaching | Other Academic | Administrative and Support | Technical |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2023–24 | 9,068 | 1,135 | 3,460 | 49 | 3,106 | 1,318 |
| Male | 4,071 | 829 | 1,696 | 27 | 782 | 737 |
| Female | 4,997 | 306 | 1,764 | 22 | 2,324 | 581 |
| 2022–23 | 8,526 | 1,118 | 3,127 | 51 | 2,964 | 1,266 |
| Male | 3,779 | 814 | 1,469 | 31 | 758 | 707 |
| Female | 4,747 | 304 | 1,658 | 20 | 2,206 | 559 |

## DISTRIBUTION OF NON-LOCAL PROFESSORIATE STAFF (BASED ON NATIONALITY)

2023–24
**810**
2022–23
780




+ All staff statistics shown above include UGC-funded and self-funded staff, honorary and visiting staff are excluded.

# RESEARCH

## RESEARCH FUNDING

HK$ (in million)

Total Research Funding

2023–24 **5,751.4**

2022–23 5,329

Block Grant from University Grants Committee

3,647.5 / 63.4%

3,582.2 / 67.2%

Research Grants Council / University Grants Committee

588.9 / 10.2%

542.7 / 10.2%

Other External Sources*

1,245 / 21.6%

960 / 18.0%

Income from Research-related Endowment Funds

270 / 4.7%

244 / 4.6%

* Includes the following fund sources: government, private, industry and HKU Foundation.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

Ongoing and new

| Broad Disciplinary Area | | Research Grants Projects | | Research Contract Projects | | All | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No. of Projects | HK$ M | No. of Projects | HK$ M | No. of Projects | HK$ M |
| Biology and Medicine | 2023–24 | 4,548 | 9,197.8 | 429 | 1,090.7 | 4,978 | 10,288.5 |
| | 2022–23 | 4,488 | 8,750.4 | 423 | 1,020.9 | 4,911 | 9,771.2 |
| Engineering | 2023–24 | 1,058 | 1,700.6 | 178 | 281.7 | 1,236 | 1,982.3 |
| | 2022–23 | 956 | 1,470.1 | 186 | 282 | 1,142 | 1,752.1 |
| Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Studies | 2023–24 | 1,739 | 2,396.7 | 130 | 235.9 | 1,869 | 2,632.6 |
| | 2022–23 | 1,704 | 2,355.5 | 167 | 281.4 | 1,871 | 2,636.9 |
| Physical Sciences | 2023–24 | 729 | 1,063.2 | 39 | 85.6 | 768 | 1,148.8 |
| | 2022–23 | 689 | 959.6 | 43 | 94.6 | 732 | 1,054.2 |
| All Disciplines | 2023–24 | 8,075 | 14,358.3 | 775 | 1,693.9 | 8,850 | 16,052.2 |
| | 2022–23 | 7,837 | 13,535.6 | 819 | 1,678.9 | 8,656 | 15,214.5 |

## CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PATENTS GRANTED

Since 1998 and up to June 2024

**1,430**

| 437 | 63 | 278 | 5 | 34 | 126 | 180 | 307 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Human Necessities | Performing Operations, Transporting | Chemistry, Metallurgy | Fixed Constructions | Mechanical Engineering, Lighting, Heating, Weapons, Blasting | Physics | Electricity | Multiple# |

# 'Multiple' refers to patents granted which cover more than one of the types specified.

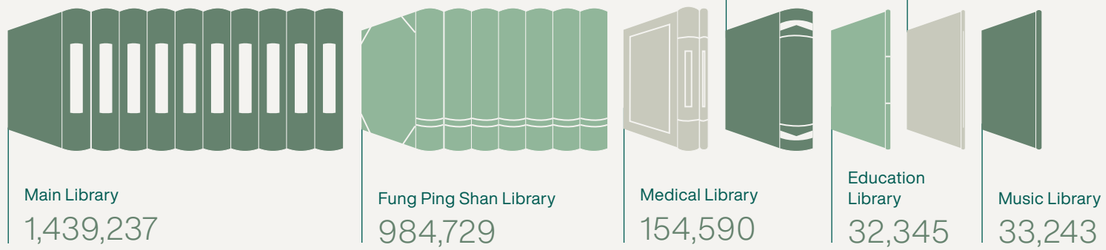




# LIBRARY RESOURCES

## NUMBER OF BOUND VOLUMES IN MAIN AND SPECIALIST LIBRARIES 2023–24

**2,838,231**



Main Library
1,439,237

Fung Ping Shan Library
984,729

Medical Library
154,590

Law Library
172,546

Education Library
32,345

Dental Library
21,541

Music Library
33,243

## E-RESOURCES 2023–24

| E-journals (Subscriptions) | E-journals (Titles) | Databases | E-books | Computer Files (Excluding E-videos and E-audio) | E-videos | E-audio |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 327,466 | 260,875 | 1,016 | 9,851,361 | 29,764 | 111,844 | 219,758 |

## STUDENT LEARNING SUPPORT RESOURCES / SERVICES 2023–24

Total Library Seats
3,136

Group Discussion Rooms
53

24 Hours Library Seats for All
88

Computer Workstations
412

Wireless Network Access Points
211

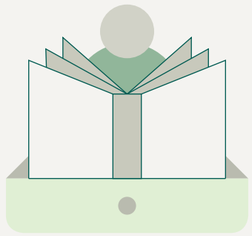
Postgraduate Library Workshops
71

Single Study Carrels / Rooms for Postgraduate Students

| Main Library | Law Library | Medical Library |
|---|---|---|
| 60 | 38 | 30 |

Information and Referral Service
51,724
Reference Transactions

## TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED LIBRARY USERS 2023–24



**145,888**

# COMPUTING AND NETWORK RESOURCES

## COMPUTING AND NETWORK RESOURCES

As of June 2024

Wired Network Access Points
50,132

Wireless Network Access Points
13,524

Total Bandwidth for Direct Connection to the Internet and Research / Education Networks
42
Gbps

Aggregated Central Computing Power for Teaching and Research Purposes (Theoretical Peak Computing Speed)
1,070.2
TFLOPS

# GIVING TO HKU

## DONATION FACTS 2023-24

Total Number of Gifts Received
3,987

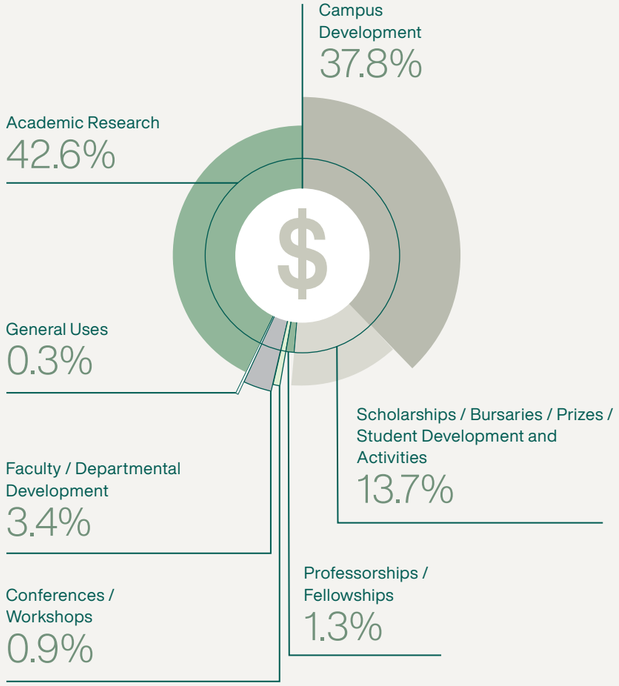
Total Amount of Donations
HK$1,108M

Total Number of Donors
2,815

Number of First-time Donors
1,916

Ratio of Alumni vs Non-alumni Donors
73:27

## DISTRIBUTION OF DONATIONS 2023-24








# FINANCE

## AN ANALYSIS OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

For the year ended June 30, 2024
In thousands of Hong Kong dollars

REVENUE
16,892,319

Auxiliary Services
409,508
2.4%

Donations and Benefactions
917,398
5.4%

Other Income, Net
1,249,446
7.4%

Interest and Investment Gain, Net
1,627,001
9.6%

Tuition, Programmes and Other Fees
5,650,103
33.4%

Government Subventions
7,038,863
41.7%

EXPENDITURE
12,996,234

Teaching, Learning and Research
9,615,100 74.0%

Teaching and Research
8,622,826
66.3%

Other Academic Services
541,689
4.2%

Central Computing Facilities
248,459
1.9%

Library
202,126
1.6%

Institutional Support
3,381,134 26.0%

Premises and Related Expenses
1,793,887
13.8%

Student and General Education Services
724,969
5.6%

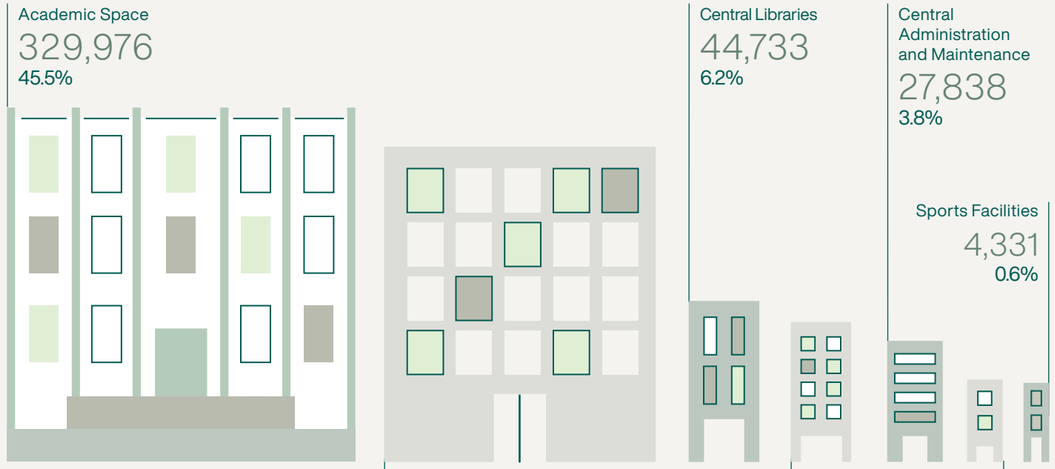
Management and General
699,737
5.4%

Other Activities
162,541
1.3%

# SPACE

## DISTRIBUTION OF SPACE BY CATEGORIES BASED ON TOTAL GROSS COVERED FLOOR AREA

As of June 2024
In sq.m.



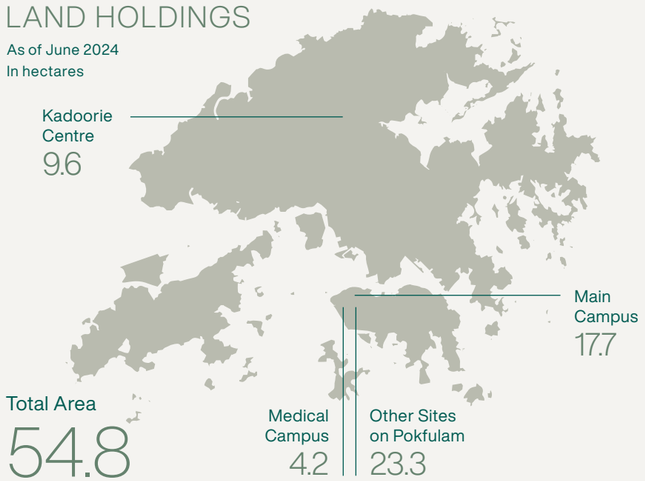

## HKU SPACE GROSS COVERED FLOOR AREA

As of June 2024

45,577 sq.m.

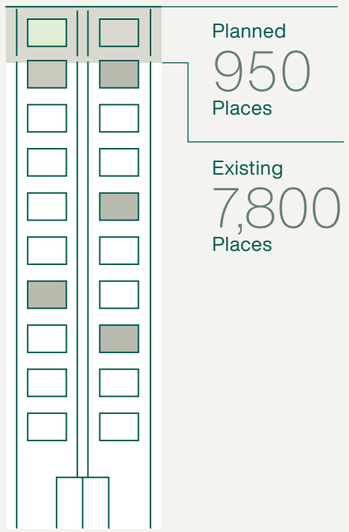
## LAND HOLDINGS

As of June 2024
In hectares




## HALLS AND STUDENT RESIDENCES

As of June 2024






# AN EXTRACT FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2023–24



## OVERVIEW

The financial year 2023–24 was the second year of the 2022–25 triennium.

The Group demonstrated its commitment to provide world-class education and research, and delivered impact through internationalisation, innovation and interdisciplinarity.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the Group has adopted certain new / revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (HKFRS) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants which are relevant and applicable to the Group's operation and comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice for the University Grants Committee (UGC)-Funded Institutions.

During the financial year, the Group recorded a surplus of HK$3,918 million. Compared to the previous year, the surplus further increased in 2023–24 as a result of improvement in investment performance and increases in government subventions and tuition fees.

## RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

The Group's consolidated results for the year ended June 30, 2024 are summarised as follows:

| | 2024 HK$ (in million) | 2023 HK$ (in million) |
|---|---|---|
| Income | 16,892 | 14,160 |
| Expenditure | (12,996) | (12,204) |
| Surplus from Operations | 3,896 | 1,956 |
| Others | 22 | 5 |
| Total Comprehensive Income | 3,918 | 1,961 |

The consolidated income for the year 2023–24 was HK$16,892 million, an increase of HK$2,732 million from last year. This was mainly due to improvement in investment performance and increases in government subventions and tuition fees.

The consolidated expenditure increased by 6% to HK$12,996 million (2022–23: HK$12,204 million), of which HK$9,615 million (2022–23: HK$8,877 million) was expended on the Group's teaching, learning and research activities.

## FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

As the financial year 2023–24 ends, the University has entered into the third year of the triennium of 2022–25. The University continues its strong commitment to intellectual freedom, liberty and diversity.

To fulfil its education mission, the University will continue to recruit top scholars as well as young researchers; admit top talented students with diverse backgrounds; and upgrade its infrastructure and technology, including student amenities, teaching and research facilities.

The University will remain prudent and yet flexible in financial management in its pursuit to continue being an Asia's leading global university.

The University's Annual Accounts can be found at **www.feo.hku.hk/finance/**.

Any correspondence or feedback on this extract or the accounts should be emailed to **finance-mail@hku.hk**.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended June 30, 2024
In thousands of Hong Kong dollars

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|
| **Revenue** | | |
| Government Subventions | 7,038,863 | 6,572,361 |
| Tuition, Programmes and Other Fees | 5,650,103 | 4,813,732 |
| Donations and Benefactions | 917,398 | 636,242 |
| Auxiliary Services | 409,508 | 359,105 |
| Interest and Investment Gain, Net | 1,627,001 | 456,007 |
| Other Income, Net | 1,249,446 | 1,322,727 |
| | 16,892,319 | 14,160,174 |
| **Expenditure** | | |
| Teaching, Learning and Research | | |
| Teaching and Research | 8,622,826 | 7,939,736 |
| Library | 202,126 | 201,709 |
| Central Computing Facilities | 248,459 | 237,050 |
| Other Academic Services | 541,689 | 498,737 |
| Institutional Support | | |
| Management and General | 699,737 | 608,902 |
| Premises and Related Expenses | 1,793,887 | 1,786,947 |
| Student and General Education Services | 724,969 | 686,312 |
| Other Activities | 162,541 | 244,430 |
| | 12,996,234 | 12,203,823 |
| **Surplus for the Year before Share of Joint Venture and Associates** | 3,896,085 | 1,956,351 |
| **Share of Surplus of Joint Venture** | 16,826 | 15,392 |
| **Surplus before Taxation for the Year** | 3,912,911 | 1,971,743 |
| **Income Tax Credit** | 3,981 | 2,582 |
| **Surplus for the Year** | 3,916,892 | 1,974,325 |
| **Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss)** | | |
| Items that may be recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income | | |
| Exchange Differences | 533 | (11,900) |
| Share of Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) of a Joint Venture | 178 | (803) |
| Items that will not be recognised subsequently in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income | | |
| Re-measurement of Defined Benefit Retirement Scheme Assets | 406 | (431) |
| | 1,117 | (13,134) |
| **Total Comprehensive Income for the Year** | 3,918,009 | 1,961,191 |
| **Attributable to** | | |
| UGC Funds | 1,012,129 | 458,169 |
| Restricted Funds | (40,820) | (236,896) |
| Other Funds | 2,946,700 | 1,739,918 |
| | 3,918,009 | 1,961,191 |



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at June 30, 2024
In thousands of Hong Kong dollars

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|
| **Assets** | | |
| Non-current Assets | | |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | 13,121,091 | 11,899,181 |
| Right-of-use Assets | 1,990,338 | 2,085,525 |
| Intangible Assets | 11,563 | 12,256 |
| Interests in Joint Venture | 322,531 | 305,527 |
| Financial Investments at Amortised Cost | 818,930 | 1,037,138 |
| Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss | 14,747,888 | 13,790,225 |
| Loans Receivable | 3,349 | 2,802 |
| Accounts Receivable, Prepayments and Deposits | 1,025,755 | 1,002,885 |
| Defined Benefit Retirement Scheme Assets | 15,487 | 14,665 |
| Deferred Tax Assets | 9,661 | - |
| | 32,066,593 | 30,150,204 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Financial Investments at Amortised Cost | 403,600 | 367,776 |
| Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss | 678,871 | 740,204 |
| Loans Receivable | 75,402 | 84,943 |
| Inventories | 2,694 | 2,320 |
| Accounts Receivable, Prepayments and Deposits | 2,202,296 | 1,906,172 |
| Amount Due from a Joint Venture | - | 5,360 |
| Bank Deposits with Original Maturity over Three Months | 14,662,505 | 11,554,796 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 1,243,858 | 1,748,068 |
| | 19,269,226 | 16,409,639 |
| **Total Assets** | 51,335,819 | 46,559,843 |
| **Funds** | | |
| UGC Funds | 3,826,353 | 2,794,904 |
| Restricted Funds | 11,050,061 | 10,846,015 |
| Other Funds | 20,984,828 | 18,302,314 |
| **Total Funds** | 35,861,242 | 31,943,233 |
| **Liabilities** | | |
| Non-current Liabilities | | |
| Accounts Payable and Accruals | 152,334 | 170,643 |
| Employee Benefit Accruals | 5,731 | 16,234 |
| Loans and Borrowings | 78,532 | 95,008 |
| Lease Liabilities | 187,725 | 224,683 |
| Deferred Capital Funds | 7,250,680 | 6,657,820 |
| | 7,675,002 | 7,164,388 |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Accounts Payable and Accruals | 3,902,217 | 3,593,504 |
| Amount Due to a Joint Venture | 2,285 | - |
| Employee Benefit Accruals | 804,601 | 773,927 |
| Tax Payable | 6,595 | 980 |
| Loans and Borrowings | 60,936 | 50,310 |
| Lease Liabilities | 93,653 | 109,109 |
| Deferred Income | 2,929,288 | 2,924,392 |
| | 7,799,575 | 7,452,222 |
| **Total Liabilities** | 15,474,577 | 14,616,610 |
| **Total Funds and Liabilities** | 51,335,819 | 46,559,843 |
| **Net Current Assets** | 11,469,651 | 8,957,417 |
| **Total Assets Less Current Liabilities** | 43,536,244 | 39,107,621 |

# OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY*

As at November 15, 2024

| | |
|---|---|
| CHANCELLOR | The Honourable John Lee Ka Chiu, GBM, SBS, PDSM, PMSM<br>MPubPol&Admin *CSturt* |
| PRO-CHANCELLOR | Dr the Honourable Sir David Li Kwok Po, GBM, GBS, JP<br>HonLLD *Cantab, Warw* and *HK*;<br>HonDSSc *CUHK* |
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| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT) | Professor Gong Peng<br>BS, MS *Nanjing*; PhD *Waterloo*; MAE |
| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (TEACHING AND LEARNING) | Professor Ian Michael Holliday<br>MA *Cantab*; MPhil, DPhil *Oxon* |
| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (HEALTH) | Professor Wallace Lau Chak Sing, BBS, JP<br>MBChB, MD *Dundee*; MRCP *UK*; FHKCP;<br>FHKAM (Medicine); FRCP *Edin*; FRCP *Glas*;<br>FRCP *Lond*; HonDSc *Glas* |
| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (GLOBAL) | Professor Alfonso Ngan Hing Wan<br>BSc(Eng) *HK*; PhD, DSc *Birm*; FREng;<br>FHKEng; FHKIE; FIMMM |
| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH) | Professor Max Shen Zuojun<br>BEng *Shandong*; ME *Tsinghua*;<br>MS, PhD *Northwestern*; FINFORMS; FPOMS; FHKEng |
| VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (GLOBAL INNOVATION CENTRE) | Professor Vivian Yam Wing Wah, SBS, JP<br>BSc, PhD *HK*; MCAS; IM(NAS); MAE;<br>FTWAS; MASHK; CSci; CChem; FRSC; FCCS |
| TREASURER | Mrs Margaret Leung Ko May Yee, SBS, JP<br>BSocSc *HK* |

DEANS OF FACULTIES

| | |
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| ARCHITECTURE (ACTING) | Professor Anthony Yeh Gar On<br>BA *HK*; MSc *AIT*; MRP, PhD *Syracuse*; MCAS;<br>MHKAS; FTWAS; FASS; FRTPI; FPIA; FCILT; FRICS;<br>FHKIP; HonFHKIS; RPP |
| ARTS | Professor David Martin Pomfret<br>BA, PhD *Nott* |
| BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS | Professor Cai Hongbin<br>BS *Wuhan*; MEcon *Peking*; MS, PhD *Stan* |
| DENTISTRY (ACTING) | Professor Jin Lijian<br>DDS *Zhejiang*; MMedSc, Odont Dr *Karolinska Inst*;<br>PhD *Peking*; FDS RCS (Ad Hominem) *Edin* |
| EDUCATION | Professor Yang Rui<br>BA *Anhui*; MEd *Fujian Normal*; PhD *Syd* |
| ENGINEERING | Professor David Joseph Srolovitz<br>BS *Rutgers*; MSE, PhD *Penn* |
| LAW | Professor Fu Hualing<br>LLB *SW Pol Sc & Law*; MA *Tor*; JD *York* |
| MEDICINE | Professor Wallace Lau Chak Sing, BBS, JP<br>MBChB, MD *Dundee*; MRCP *UK*; FHKCP;<br>FHKAM (Medicine); FRCP *Edin*; FRCP *Glas*;<br>FRCP *Lond*; HonDSc *Glas* |
| SCIENCE | Professor Zhou Qiang<br>BSc *USTC*; PhD *UCLA* |
| SOCIAL SCIENCES | Professor Wen Ming<br>BSc *Peking*; MA, MSc, PhD *Chic* |

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|---|---|
| DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS | Professor Samson Tse Shu Ki<br>MSc, PhD *Otago*; PDOT *HKPU*; DipSocSc *Massey* |
| REGISTRAR (ACTING) | Professor Ian Michael Holliday<br>MA *Cantab*; MPhil, DPhil *Oxon* |
| DIRECTOR OF FINANCE | Mr Tony Lo Tung Sing<br>BBA *CUHK*; MSc *Lond*; CPA |
| LIBRARIAN | Ms Flora Ng Lai Kuen<br>BAppSc *Tor*; MASc *Waterloo* |
| DIRECTOR OF ESTATES (ACTING) | Ir Sam Chan Yu Sum<br>BSc(Eng) *HK*; MBA *CUHK*; FHKIE, FCIArb |

* Officers of the University are listed in the University Ordinance and Statutes.

# THE COURT

As at November 15, 2024

| | |
|---|---|
| CHANCELLOR | The Honourable John Lee Ka Chiu |
| PRO-CHANCELLOR | Dr the Honourable Sir David Li Kwok Po |
| PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR | Professor Xiang Zhang |
| PROVOST AND DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR | Professor Richard Wong Yue Chim |
| VICE-PRESIDENTS AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLORS | Professor Gong Peng<br>Professor Ian Michael Holliday<br>Professor Wallace Lau Chak Sing<br>Professor Alfonso Ngan Hing Wan<br>Professor Max Shen Zuojun<br>Professor Norman Tien Chihnan<br>Professor Vivian Yam Wing Wah |
| TREASURER | Mrs Margaret Leung Ko May Yee |
| LIFE MEMBERS OF COURT | Dr the Honourable Victor Fung Kwok King<br>Dr the Honourable Leong Che Hung<br>Professor the Honourable Arthur Li Kwok Cheung |
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| SIX PERSONS, NOT BEING STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES OF THE UNIVERSITY, APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL | Professor Frank Chan Fan<br>Mr Vincent Cheung Sai Sing<br>Professor Chow Shew Ping<br>Mr Daryl Ng Win Kong<br>The Honourable Jimmy Ng Wing Ka<br>Dr Thomas Brian Stevenson |
| TWO PERSONS, NOT BEING STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES OF THE UNIVERSITY, ELECTED BY THE COURT | Professor Henry Chan Hin Lee<br>Mr David Lau Pak Wai |
| PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR | |
| TREASURER | |
| FOUR FULL-TIME TEACHERS ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS | Professor Danny Chan<br>Professor Ivan Hung Fan Ngai<br>Professor Wendy Lam Wing Tak<br>Professor Anskar Leung Yu Hung |
| ONE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE OF THE UNIVERSITY, NOT BEING A TEACHER, ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS | Dr Chu Yiu Leung |
| ONE FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS | Mr Cassey Chik Yau Hong |
| ONE FULL-TIME POSTGRADUATE STUDENT ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS | Mr Lin Peijian |





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|---|---|
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| PROVOST AND DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR | |
| VICE-PRESIDENTS AND PRO-VICE-CHANCELLORS | |
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| CHAIRMAN OF EACH BOARD OF THE FACULTY | Professor Chau Kwong Wing (Architecture) (Acting)<br>Professor Song Geng (Arts)<br>Professor Wong Kit Pong (Business and Economics)<br>Professor Leung Wai Keung (Dentistry)<br>Professor Nirmala Rao (Education)<br>Professor Kao Chi Ming (Engineering)<br>Professor Thomas Scott Veitch (Law)<br>Professor Leung Suet Yi (Medicine)<br>Professor Ng Tuen Wai (Science)<br>Professor Fu King Wa (Social Sciences) |
| TWELVE ELECTED PROFESSORS | Professor Douglas Wayne Arner<br>Professor David Makram Bishai<br>Professor Esther Chan Wai Yin<br>Professor Michael Chau Chiu Lung<br>Professor Rina Hui Yee Man<br>Professor Edmund Lam Yin Mun<br>Professor George Lin Chu Sheng<br>Professor Wilson Lu Weisheng<br>Professor Eric Tse Wai Choi<br>Professor Wang Min<br>Professor Yuan Xiaoming<br>..... |
| SIX ELECTED TEACHERS, NOT BEING PROFESSORS | Professor Patrick James Adler<br>Professor Georgios Halkias<br>Professor Cora Lai Sau Wan<br>Professor Victoria Wong Wing Yee<br>.....<br>..... |
| DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION | Professor William Lee Keng Mun |
| DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL | Professor Max Shen Zuojun |
| LIBRARIAN | Ms Flora Ng Lai Kuen |
| DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS | Professor Samson Tse Shu Ki |
| THREE ELECTED FULL-TIME STUDENTS (AT LEAST ONE UNDERGRADUATE AND ONE POSTGRADUATE) | Miss Chloe Cheung Sin Yue<br>Miss Deng Ziru<br>Mr Wang Yifan |

| | |
|---|---|
| REGISTRAR | Professor Ian Michael Holliday (Acting) |
| CHAIRMAN OF CONVOCATION | Mr Mak Tung Wing |
| DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF CONVOCATION | Mr Jeffrey Tse Hoi Shing |
| CLERK OF CONVOCATION | Dr Alex Chan Wo Shun |
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| TWELVE MEMBERS ELECTED FROM AMONG ITS NUMBER BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF CONVOCATION | Mr Au Yeung Yip Hung<br>Ms Molly Chan Mo Ning<br>Mr Spencer Chan Shiu Bun<br>Professor Fu King Wa<br>Mr Ip Kim Ching<br>Mr Alex Lai Chun Hung<br>Mr Edmond Lau Kin Chung<br>Ms Leung Hoi Shuen<br>Dr Data Ng Cheuk Kwong<br>Mr Ng Kwok Wa<br>Mr Eddie Shee Shing Chung<br>Mr Simon Wong Kai Tung |
| FIVE MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE COURT | Ms Wendy Gan Kim See<br>Professor Richard Yu Yue Hong<br>Mr George Yuen Kam Ho<br>.....<br>..... |
| THREE MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE GRANT SCHOOLS COUNCIL | Miss Maggie Chau Wai Chu<br>Mr Frederick Poon Siu Chi<br>Mr Dennis Yuen Dick Yan |
| THREE MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE HONG KONG SUBSIDIZED SECONDARY SCHOOLS COUNCIL | Mr Ringo Chan Chi Wai<br>Ms Lee Yi Ying<br>Dr Yim Chi Shing |
| NOT MORE THAN TWENTY MEMBERS, NOT BEING ALREADY INCLUDED IN ANY OF THE FOREGOING CLASSES, APPOINTED BY THE CHANCELLOR | Mr Adriel Chan Wenbwo<br>Dr Charles Chen Yidan<br>Mrs Jennifer Cheng<br>Mr Vincent Cheung Sai Sing<br>Mr Karson Choi Ka Tsan<br>Mr Andrew Fung Hau Chung<br>Mr Don Gao Zhen Dong<br>Dr Aron Hari Harilela<br>Ms Maisy Ho Chiu Ha<br>Mr Kuok Khoon Hua<br>Dr Martin Lee Ka Shing<br>Dr Ma Weihua<br>Mr Kazaf Tam Chun Kwok<br>Mrs May Tam Mak Mei Yin<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>..... |

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THE CABINET


## CONTRIBUTION AND FEEDBACK

With special thanks to faculties, departments, staff and students who contributed their time and their photographs to the *HKU Annual Report 2024*.

## CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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